Monday, May 23, 2011 | 16 sections / Vol. 26 / No. 164 / P18 | www.inquirer.net | Mobile Alert: Text INQ to 2899 for FREE!

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

CAMAYAN COVE-ON Matabaa Island, one of the tales of picturesque Caramoan in Camarines Sur, is a perfect summer getaway for tourists and so familiar with its white sands and shallow waters. The province is hosting the 22nd Philippine Arts Congress on May 16-19.

# Bishop steps up attack

## Diokno fate hinges on his explanation, says Aquino

By Christine O. Avendaño and Miko Morales

PRESIDENT AQUINO yesterday said Budget of Secretaries Dr. Ernesto Teodoro Diokno risked losing his trust and confidence and could face questions if the BuCor chief failed to fully explain why former Batangas Gov. Antonio Leviste was allowed unauthorized trips outside prison despite being convicted of killing an aide.

Short of saying that Diokno could be dismissed from his job, Mr. Aquino told reporters he was not satisfied with the initial explanation given him by Diokno.

"If his answer is unsatisfactory, there is in his appointment a requirement of trust and confidence. And if this trust and confidence is lost, there is a corresponding action there," the President said in Filipino.

Mr. Aquino served the warning on the eve of the opening of a formal Department of Justice

SHWARD A1>

ALL IN THE FAMILY Filmmaker Rollie Tolentino, in G-string, his mother, former Mayor Virginia de Guia, youngest son, Kalaniso, and first grandson, Kalipay, attend a concert for the RH bill.

## Cruz: P-Noy fails to ease poverty

By Jocelyn R. Uy

ARCHBISHOP Emeritus Oscar Cruz yesterday said President Aquino's support for population control programs was an official admission of his administration's inability to undertake socioeconomic programs to ease poverty.

"His government's emphasis system and blatant decision is known [the number of] Filipinos to have a better Philippines," Cruz said in a strongly worded statement issued in the midst of the escalating conflict between Malacañang and the Catholic Church as Congress debates a reproductive health (RH) bill.

"Forgetten is the once proud and loud cheer, 'Kung walang corrupt, walang mahirap' (If there's no corruption, there's no poverty). Now the mantra sounds 'Kung walang pagmamahal, walang mahirap' (If no child is born, there's no poverty)," he said.

Instead of thinking of ways to produce more food and houses for people, the government had subscribed to the idea that "the less people are, the more food there is ... the fewer people are housed, the more houses there are," he added.

"Let there be a declaration, not a hail-fault national leadership. Let there be a veto, not a dull

SHARP A12>

Compromise bill seen on reproductive health A12

## Singapore's political life without Lee Kuan Yew

By Amanda Dorenda

SINGAPORE'S founding father, Lee Kuan Yew, unexpectedly resigned from the Cabinet on May 17, after more than half a century in power. He stepped down together with fellow former Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong.

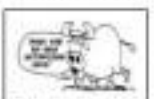
ANALYSIS

Their resignations came after the worst election result of their People's Action Party (PAP) since independence in 1965.

They said in a joint statement that the "time has come for a younger generation to take over."

"Young people want more information in decision that will impact directly on them," they said. Most observers said elections are decided more by who is from the Cabinet and administrators than by issues of younger ministers to connect and re-

SINGAPORE'S A14>



## End-of-the-world prophecy ends in parties, jokes

OAKLAND, California—When the clock ran out on a much-hyped—and much-ridiculed—apocalyptic pre-

END OF THE WORLD A13

## P-Noy to bring up intrusion with China's defense chief

By Christine O. Avendaño

STRESSING that he wanted to avoid conflict, President Aquino yesterday said he would raise today with visiting Chinese Defense Minister Liang Guanglie the recent Chinese intrusion in Reed Bank, inside the Philippine region as part of its territory.

Liang, who is here for a five-day visit until Wednesday, will pay a courtesy call on Mr. Aquino in Malacañang at 3 p.m. today.

Speaking to reporters after attending the 102nd commencement exercise of the University of the Philippines' College of Medicine, the President noted that there were many incidents at Reed Bank, as well as the disputed Spratly islands.

Mr. Aquino said the Philippines had long been pitching for the observance of a code of conduct in the Spratlys and encouraging dialogues among claimants "instead of having incidents happening there."

"In the interest of maintaining good bilateral relations, we will express our sentiments and ask them how we should look at

P-NOY A15

Media stampedes on Gazmin-Liang talks A16

## Pricey house arrest for ex-IMF chief

NEW YORK—With armed guards and cameras watching his every move, resigned IMF chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn remained holed up on Sunday in a pricey high-rise while he awaits a more permanent location for house arrest in his case of assault case.

The combine French government economist and former head of the International Mone-

PRICEY A15

LEARNING
La Salle marks 100 yrs in song and dance / G1

SPORTS
Mavs up 2-1 versus Thunder / A31

LIFESTYLE
Concert to raise funds for detainee Ericson Acosta / C4

NEWS
Strong storm on way, warns Pagasa / A2

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

7 35 20 21 11 12

7 6 4 7 6 0

4 9 7

10 21 25 29 37 44

P25,947,072.00

# Strong storm headed PH way–Pagasa

By Kristine L. Alave

A POTENTIAL super-typhoon is churning toward the Philippines and is expected to bring wet and windy weather to a large portion of the country beginning Tuesday, the weather bureau said yesterday.

The tropical storm called Songda, which formed near Guam last week, was continuing its approach toward the eastern seaboard yesterday, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) said.

The storm, according to Pagasa's advisory, would have entered the country's area of responsibility late last night or early today and would be renamed "Chedeng."

It will be the third tropical cyclone of the year and the second this month after Tropical Storm "Bebeng."

As of 4 p.m. yesterday, Songda was logged at 1,030 km east of northern Mindanao with maximum sustained winds of 85 kph near the center and gustiness of up to 100 kph. It is forecast to move westnorthwest at 11 kph.

Pagasa said it was closely monitoring the storm as it was growing stronger and could be destructive.

Robert Sawi, Pagasa's chief forecaster, said the storm could intensify into a typhoon in the next few days with winds over 150 kph.

Sawi said he was worried about the storm's sluggish approach to land, noting that this was giving it more time to consolidate and gather strength.

Sawi also feared that if it did not accelerate when it neared the country, the typhoon in its path would suffer longer and heavier downpours.

### Slow like Bebeng

Storm Bebeng was like that, he said. "It was slow, too, and the provinces that were affected by it suffered heavy rains," he said.

According to Pagasa, the storm should hit eastern Visayas or veer north to Cagayan province on Tuesday.

Pagasa said northeast and central Luzon would be in the path of the storm. It could make landfall somewhere in that area, Sawi said.

Other parts of the country would also experience heavy rains brought by the potential typhoon.

Metro Manila and the western seaboard will likely experience rainshowers and thunderstorms by Wednesday or Thursday although there may not be rain, Sawi said.

He added that the storm could track in and enhance the southwest monsoon, which has been bringing sudden rains and thunderstorms to the metropolis and surrounding provinces in the past few days.

## GOV'T WATCH

Serving and Protecting the Filipino Consumer

PAUL T. CONCEPCION
CONSUMER ADVOCATE

### DEVELOPMENTS IN THE U. S. OIL INDUSTRY SHOULD SERVE AS A WAKE UP CALL FOR PNoy

**The Bosses of the "BIG FIVE" Oil Companies in the U. S. namely, CHEVRON, SHELL-U.S., BP AMERICA, CONOCO PHILLIPS AND EXXON MOBILE will have to face "GRILLING" by the powerful SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE for ALLEGATIONS OF BANKING RECORD PROFITS AT TAX PAYERS' EXPENSE.**

**President Obama's** Democratic Allies in the U. S. Congress have called for the **END TO ANNUAL TAX BREAKS**, which is estimated to be around **U.S. $ 2 BILLION a year for the big oil companies.**

**IF THE U. S. CAN DO IT, WHY CAN'T WE?**

**GOV'T WATCH URGE PNoy AND THE CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO FOLLOW THE U. S. EXAMPLE AND STRICTLY IMPLEMENT R. A. 8479 – THE OIL DEREGULATION LAW TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF THE CONSUMING PUBLIC'S INTERESTS.**

GOV'T WATCH **recommends** that Government must take action on the following:

**Item 1:** **PNoy must pursue his call for OIL COMPANIES TO OPEN THEIR FINANCIAL RECORDS TO THE PUBLIC.**

As he had said, and we quote – **"Kung reasonable ang price hikes, bakit hindi pwedeng ipakita ang records?"**

**Item 2:** **GOV'T WATCH reiterates that the DoE-DoJ Task Force headed by DoE Secretary Jose Rene Almendras with Undersecretary Jose Layug, Jr. and DoJ Secretary Leila de Lima will work hand in hand with Gov't Watch Chairman Raul Concepcion, who represents the Consuming Public.**

**Together, they form a formidable team that can ensure the protection of the Consuming Public's interests.**

**Item 3:** **The DoE – DoJ Task Force must be aware of the actual inventories of the oil companies at all times.** They must also make public the **15-day moving average price** for the oil importers and the **45-day moving average price** for the only oil refiner, Petron.

**Item 4:** **The DoE – DoJ Task Force together with the DoF though the Bureau of Customs must subject all oil importations to a pre-inspection scheme conducted by accredited third party inspection companies such as SGS, COTECNA, and BUREAU VERITAS.**

**This is necessary to dispel the impression that the oil companies are taking advantage of the oil crisis.**

These **GOV'T WATCH recommendations** are **"Check and Balance" Measures** that will assure the consuming public's protection from oil companies with the intent to take advantage of the consumers. **Let us not wait for a similar Oil Industry Controversy to happen in our country.**

**PNoy and the Government Agencies concerned MUST BE VIGILANT AND STRICT IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE OIL DEREGULATION LAW FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CONSUMING PUBLIC.**

PAUL T. CONCEPCION
Chairman

**Gov't Watch values your comments or suggestions on this important issue:**

***DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE THAT GOVERNMENT MUST NOW STRICTLY IMPLEMENT THE OIL DEREGULATION LAW AND MUST TAKE ACTION ON GOV'T WATCH'S FOUR (4) VITAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CONSUMING PUBLIC'S INTERESTS?***

***Please send your views and comments to GOV'T WATCH***
***Via SMS: GLOBE 0935-9587777 and SMART 0948-7486555***
***Via email: inbox@GOVTWATCH.net***
***Via facebook: www.facebook.com/GOVTWATCH***
***Via website: www.govtwatch.net***

# Quakes rock north Luzon, Dinagat isle

By Villamor Visaya Jr.
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO, Baguio—A magnitude-5.3 earthquake shook this capital town in northern Luzon at 9:08 Saturday night but no one was hurt, reports from local authorities said.

Less than one hour later, at 10:16 p.m., a magnitude-4.5 hit Dinagat Island off the northern island of Mindanao.

The tremor in Baguio was strong enough to create some panic, sending some residents running out of their homes and some patients taking refuge outside a hospital.

Renato Bacol, science researcher at the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) station in Pasonjan, Davao Norte, said the quake's epicenter was located 5 km northeast of Baguio, Isabela.

It was felt at intensity 5 in Baguio; intensity 4 in Tuguegarao City and Pefiblanco in Cagayan; in Tabuk, Kalinga and Tumauini in Isabela; and in Baler, Aurora. Residents in Baguio City and Tabuk City in Kalinga felt the quake at intensity 3.

### 8 aftershocks

The earthquake was followed by eight mild aftershocks, whose magnitudes ranged from 2.1 to 3.6, from 10:13 p.m. Saturday to 9:23 a.m. Sunday.

An inspection by the provincial engineering office and police and health officials yesterday showed that some sections of the provincial run Benguet Provincial Hospital suffered minor cracks on its concrete walls.

Some 50 patients were forced to remain in the hospital's lobby as authorities checked the second and third floors to ensure the building's stability.

In Davao City, Bacol said his station recorded a magnitude-2.9 earthquake 118 km northwest of Dumpuia town at 8:36 p.m., before the Isabela quake struck, also on Saturday.

Dante Arnaldo, Phivolcs said the epicenter of the magnitude-4.5 quake was 14 km southwest of Loreto, Dinagat Island. It was felt at intensity 1 in Surigao City. No one was reported hurt. With reports from Cristina Arradaza, Inquirer Northern Luzon; Krissine Alave and Inquirer Mindanao

# Leave Libya, OFWs told again

MANILA (Xinhua) — The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) has strongly urged the 1,000 overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) still in Libya — mainly nurses and other hospital personnel, and their dependents...to leave the rebellion-torn country.

Calling other United Nations chief Ban Ki-Moon called the "worsening humanitarian crisis" in the north African state the DFA continues to urge Filipinos still there to depart, Foreign Affairs spokesperson J. Eduardo Malaya told the media.

Malaya said the Philippine Embassy in Tripoli "will remain open up while its presence and services are required without compromising the safety and security of its personnel."

Supporters of embattled Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi have reportedly burned and ransacked the UK, British and Italian embassies, as well as some UN offices.

Malaya reiterated that the foreign office would "continue to help overseas Filipino workers wanting to get out of Libya and ensure their safety and welfare."

According to Malaya, "the bulk of our nationals have left Libya, mainly via the Tunisian and Egyptian borders."

More than 9,000 Libya-based OFWs have been repatriated by the government, the migrant workers' employers and the Geneva-based International Organization for Migration, according to a report by the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration.

Last week, the DFA described as "unthinkable" the country's diplomatic relations with Libya.

Jerry E. Esplanada

MAKATI EXECUTIVE TOWER IV
CITYLAND We connect, we deliver.
812-2222
www.cityland.ph

SCOOTER TRAVEL IS RELAXING!
09328950333
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
www.fareastmed.net

TEMPUR MATTRESSES AND PILLOWS
NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO OWN A TEMPUR PILLOW FOR ONLY P525 A MONTH!*
Don't miss this very limited offer from May 20-29 only!
Visit the Tempur showrooms today.

Over 4 Billion Pesos
worth of promises delivered!
Pinoy Life has helped fulfill parents' dreams of securing their children's bright future with over P4 Billion in total education benefits. This semester, we will help send over 40,000 students through college.
Ensure your children's education with Pinoy Life.
Let's plan together to give them a brighter future.
Anong plano mo? Usap tayo. Call (02) 528-2000
PINOYLIFE.COM
PINOY LIFE

VEINWAVE™
Watch your spider veins vanish before your eyes
Facial Care Centre brings to Manila an innovation set to change the face of vein treatment forever – VeinWave.
What is VeinWave?
VeinWave is a revolutionary facial treatment that effectively eliminates spider veins. BIOMEDA approved, it was developed by Dr. Brian Haverson, a vascular surgeon in the United Kingdom.
Dr. Haverson says:
"VeinWave is used to treat mostly facial veins. But it can be used anywhere on the body. You can only see it on very small veins (no more than 3mm)."

What are spider veins?
Spider veins are unsightly thin, reddish, bluish or brownish veins usually formed on the face as well as on the legs. It is caused by the collapse and rupture of vein walls. Although it doesn't cause real physical discomfort, those who have spider veins tend to become self-conscious and ill-at-ease because of it.
How does VeinWave work?
The process makes use of high-frequency radio (microwaves) energy to heat fine blood vessels (veins) causing the vein walls to collapse, thus making it disappear instantly.
Is VeinWave safe?
It is completely safe. The treatment is used to treat and eliminate spider veins on any skin type without the risk of scarring, bruising or pigmentation. It is relatively painless and requires minimal downtime.
Dr. Haverson says:
"The good thing about VeinWave is that there is little in the way of downtime. There is no risk of infection. There may be some microscarring and some redness but these go away. And it never leaves a scar."
How soon can you see results?
Results are quick and instant, especially for small spider veins.
BEFORE & AFTER VEINWAVE TREATMENT

How does it compare to other vein removal methods?
No other procedure has proven to be as safe and effective as VeinWave. It has succeeded in areas where laser and other vein removal systems have failed. VeinWave is the first new vein removal system to gain cosmetic results in a single session – instant, satisfying painless, and without the risks associated with traditional scarring and pigmentation.
Dr. Haverson states:
"I think lasers are good for some veins. But it's very difficult to treat facial veins, especially those on the sides of the nose and around the cheeks with laser. And it's very uncomfortable. Laser treatments also cause discoloration plus the downtime is unacceptable. Another treatment method is via injections. I actually do not agree with injections on the face as these have about a 60% failure rate, which is really very high. And also they have various complications. Electrolysis is also used to treat veins but it causes scarring and that is also unacceptable. So I think at the end of the day, VeinWave is at the top of the list."
Call Facial Care Centre now at 892-3834 (7546) and book a FREE consultation.
VEINWAVE™
GUARANTEED INSTANT RESULTS!
Spider veins gone in less than30 minutes!
"I'm very satisfied with VeinWave. It only took less than 30 minutes to get rid of the spider veins in my lower cheek area. It wasn't painful at all. I actually fell asleep during the procedure. It's completely safe and the results were instant!"
BEFORE
AFTER

# DA pushes corn as healthier alternative to rice

By Kristine L. Alave

FOR MANY Filipinos, corn is rice's lowly cousin, but the Department of Agriculture (DA) says it should not degrade the grain because it has health benefits and could be the ticket to the country attaining food security.

The DA yesterday revealed that it had stepped up production of low-glycemic white corn seedlings to provide an alternative to rice which is most Filipinos' staple food.

The DA will provide 19 million annually for the next five years to the Institute of Plant Breeding (IPB) at the University of the Philippines in Los Baños (UPLB) to produce the seedlings.

The IPB has been propagating the corn variety called IPB Var 6 which grows a yield that is comparable to the conventional white corn hybrid.

Based on national tests, the IPB Var 6 yield in Luzon was an average 5.64 metric tons (MT) per hectare; in the Visayas 5.45 MT/ha, and in Mindanao 4.47 MT/ha.

According to the DA, rice consumption has been increasing significantly over the years. Agency data showed Filipinos consume about 120 kilos of rice annually.

Because the country does not produce enough rice for national consumption, the government has had to import the grain to have a buffer stock and to keep prices stable.

This year, the country imported about 860,000 MT of rice. 300,000 MT of which was bought by the National Food Authority from Vietnam at a cost of about P4 billion, while the rest was brought in by the private sector.

According to the DA, rice is not popular in urban areas. It noted that in the Visayas and Mindanao about 20 percent of the population are white corn consumers.

Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala, who has called on Filipinos to eat a mixture of rice and corn, and other agriculture officials, said the number of corn eaters should rise as more people learn that the grain is more beneficial than rice because it is not converted into sugar in the body.

"Ultimately this will lessen the demand for rice—and we can definitely grow it productively and cheaply—we would no longer have to import rice. This is actually a part of the DA plan", said Undersecretary Salahuddin M. Salikun, IPB deputy director and National Corn R&D (Research, Development and Extension) Network head.

Unlike rice, white corn has a low glycemic index (GI)—which slows its digestion, thereby releasing glucose gradually into the blood stream and lowering the risk of diabetes.

"Later we'll test this out to the patients across whom there is a big demand for it because many Filipinos are now diabetics and that is the perfect food for diabetics," said Salikun.

Aside from its health benefits, white corn is easier to grow and less capital intensive than rice and thus could help reduce hunger and malnutrition in the country.

"You don't need capital-intensive irrigation facilities because corn grows wherever there is rain. The only other thing we have to provide is the corn mill," he said.

Salikun said UPLB has developed a mini-corn mill that is cheaper than the high-capacity machines available in the market.

# SLIMMERS WORLD

## BUY 1 MONTH GET 1 MONTH FREE!

PLUS! Personal Training and all the Latest Aerobics!

**SPECIAL OFFER**
FOR THE FIRST 25 SLOTS TODAY!

CORE POWER + BIOMETRICS with GREAT SKIN

*I gained 28 lbs.! Runner-Up in the Great Bodies Contest.*
*Arnold Salas*

BEFORE

## Moms can have Great Bodies & Great Skin too!

BEFORE: 200 lbs.

*"I lost 96 lbs. of fat & cellulite!"*
Top 5 finalist in the Great Body Contest.
- Marilyn Luna
39 yrs. old

ALL OUR FULL PROGRAMMES ARE GUARANTEED!

CALL NOW FOR YOUR FREE CONSULTATION!

- NO MONTHLY DUES ON LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP!
- NO JOINING FEES!
- CREDIT CARD OPTIONS AT 0%
- MEDICAL SUPERVISION AT ALL CENTERS

## BUY 15 TREATMENTS GET 15 FREE!

**SPECIAL OFFER**
FOR THE FIRST 25 SLOTS TODAY!

IPL Skin REJUVENATION

to give you a supple, radiant, blemish-free & younger skin!

CALL OUR ONE - STOP SUPER CENTERS FOR FITNESS, SKIN, BODY AND FACE.

FITNESS HOTLINE: **536-3333**
SKIN HOTLINE: **525-8771**
MOBILE NUMBER: **091- SLIMMERS (754663771)**

www.slimmersworld.com.ph * inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

TRESTON INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE
School for Hospitality Management & Business

**Global education right in the PHILIPPINES**

Without having to leave the country, you get global education of international curriculum, in a school environment following international standards.

Treston International College has partnered with world renowned institutions for the following schools: Hospitality, Culinary, Business and Computer Studies.

We guarantee double diploma to our graduates. Aside from the Treston diploma, they will automatically be listed in the Roster of Alumni of Sprott-Shaw Community College, one of the best-known educational institutions in Canada.

And beyond double diploma, our graduates of Hospitality Management will also obtain the much sought-after AHLA-EI certificate, recognized by 13,000 hotels worldwide.

**These will certainly qualify you for job opportunities in the country of your choice.**

*International education, global recognition.*

**ENROLLMENT GOING ON!**

Sprott-Shaw · IBM · Microsoft

FREE Starter Package

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

SCHOOL OF HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT
- BS Hotel and Restaurant Management
- BS Culinary Management
- BS Travel Management
- BS Tourism Management

SCHOOL OF CULINARY MANAGEMENT
- AS Culinary Management

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
- AS Business Administration
- BS Accountancy

SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
- BS Information Technology
- AS Computer Science
- BS Computer Engineering

TRESTON ADVANCE
Graduate Programs
- Master in Hotel and Restaurant Management

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
- Various short-term courses in Hospitality, Business and Computer (Refer also to enrollment)

TRESTON ACADEMY
- AUGUST TVL (10 units, 6th)
- AUGUST TVL (10 units, 6th)
- AUGUST TVL (Hospitality)
- AUGUST TVL (Computer Arts)

(632) 871-6179 • (632) 871-8403 • (632) 871-6372

University Parkway District, 32nd St. Corner C-5 Road, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila


## Correction

IN THE MAY 22 ISSUE, a front-page story—"Powerhouse cast orders Mirjam's wedding rites"—erroneously identified Mar Roxas as a senator. Roxas' tenure in the Senate began in 2001 and ended in 2013.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for corrections of factual errors in writing to the Day Desk, Philippine Daily Inquirer, 5th Building, Chino Roces Avenue Ext. Makati City 1200, or fax No. 897-47-93/94; e-mail address: dayded@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to the Public Editor. E-mail address: publiceditor@inquirer.com.ph or fax No. 897-47-93/94. The Publisher may also be contacted at 897-4899 local 388.


SAFES

DIASAFE
Fireproof safe with key & combination lock

PRICE RANGE
P/ 5,010.00 to P/ 21,000.00
*Available in 20 different models

Also available: 2 Drawers - P/ 16,750.00
Filing Cabinet: 4 Drawers - P/ 40,600.00

InFocus

**SHOW! Don't Tell.**

Visualize your ideas in full confidence and clarity. Infocus projectors magnify your thoughts in a most vivid and straight-forward manner. Real results come with great conviction. Make bright ideas brilliant with Infocus.

IN102
P19,900

"During my third Contourage™, I went from 85.5 to 81 cm.

-really amazing, considering that I just had to lie down and do nothing!"

—Authentic customer statement and a paid endorsement

Like so many satisfied clients before her, this lady discovered how Zunic's advanced technology can assist, where diet and exercise fail, and when painful surgery, pills and injections are not an option.

The secret? Research groups at NASA and the Mayo Clinic recently discovered medical applications that led to the development of new technologies that combined safe for home and salon, with minimum fuss.

Zunic uses the latest equipment that embodies these technologies, and all treatments are performed by qualified, highly-trained medical staff. This is how Zunic clients can lose unwanted bliss (and inconvenient) without having to diet, exercise, take pills, suffer injections, or undergo painful surgery.

Zunic's unique Slimming and Body Sculpting Method™ can accelerate slow metabolisms and literally melt away layers of fat beneath the skin, shaping and toning your body the way you want it to look.

Results are commonly visible (and measurable) in as little as 45 minutes. Treatments are conducted while you relax in total comfort while on a plush couch, without the sweating, anxiety, and pains associated with traditional slimming methods.

"That's why Zunic is the preferred choice of busy executives, full-time moms, frequent travelers, equestrians, and people whose medical conditions prevent them from exercising, undergoing surgery, or taking appetite suppressants.

Visit us today for a free, confidential consultation. Store open 8 am to 8 pm, Monday to Sunday!

Tried. Tested. Trusted.

Zunic
slimming & body sculpting
www.zunic.com

MAKATI · QUEZON CITY · ALABANG · ORTIGAS CTR · MANILA

Call Now! 8300-800

# Ampatuan kin, others seek bail

FIFTEEN more accused in the Maguindanao massacre, including Sajid Ampatuan, have appealed to the Quezon City court trying their case to grant them bail for their temporary freedom.

In separate bail petitions, the 15 said there was not enough evidence to nullify them for the massacre in which 57 people were brutally murdered in Ampatuan, Maguindanao, on Nov. 23, 2009.

They also told Judge Jocelyn Solis Reyes of Regional Trial Court Branch 221 that the statements used against them had been fabricated.

Aside from Ampatuan, the other petitioners were Yuki Santiagan, Yaya Ranjelan, Saldi Ibanglate, SPO2 Gresgar Lubayan, SPO1 Clifford Bendaje and Alfredo Dalmacion; PO3 Shirby Balanovsay, PO2 Reuson Catarata; and PO1 Amir Sakaluran, Ebara Belen, Tamano Linih, Michael Macasiangan, Mohamad Balading and Nasrodin Alibasan.

Ampatuan is a member of the clan, led by patriarch Andal Ampatuan Jr., who are the principal suspects in the massacre that was allegedly perpetrated to stop a rival clan from filing candidacy papers for governor that would have challenged the Ampatuans' hold on political power in Maguindanao and other areas of Mindanao.

Others of the almost 200 accused had unsuccessfully petitioned the court for bail.

Julie M. Aurelio

citibank

1,000 gadgets to win.

Powered by Citi.

Here's your chance to win the latest Apple products.

Get your fill of the latest gadgets when you shop with your Citibank Credit Card! From May 21 to August 24, 2011, every ₱500 you spend ANYWHERE* gives you the chance to win Apple products from Digital Hub or Digital Walker. The more you shop, the more chances you have of winning.

No Citibank Credit Card Yet?
Apply now. Call 423 3000 or text CITI CARD to 2600

The most rewarding cards in town.

digitalhub

We Like
# University of Perpetual Help

The University of Perpetual Help has been providing quality education for more than 40 years. They nurture their students to become competent professionals who get employed not only in the country but also abroad. As a school known for board topnotchers, they offer excellent academic programs in the following:

- International Hospitality Management
- Maritime Education
- Medical and Allied Health
- Engineering
- Computer Studies
- Aviation
- Business
- Arts and Sciences
- Criminology
- Architecture
- Education
- Law
- Graduate School
- Business High School
- Regular High School
- Grade School
- Pre School
- TESDA Programs
- Short Term Courses

In their commitment to quality education, they provide their students with state-of-the-art equipment and facilities. Maritime students have access to a full mission bridge simulator. The HRM and Tourism programs are housed in a fully-equipped building designed specifically to simulate experience relative to their respective field. How awesome is that!

With NO TUITION FEE INCREASE this coming school year and EASY PAYMENT schemes to avail just make it much better. Thank you Perpetual!

## UNIVERSITY OF PERPETUAL HELP System

Check it out today! Visit www.perpetualdalta.edu.ph or www.uphsl.edu.ph

# Don't let CANCER take control of your life.

## Late Stage Cancer : Still Treatable

### Modern Radio-Particle Knife Can Cut Off The Proliferation of Tumor Cells

FREE Medical Consultations

广州现代肿瘤医院
Guangzhou Modern Cancer Hospital

Tel. Nos.: (02) 3531554 • 0915 4642818 • 0922 8083333

# Court rules: No graft in postal deal

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE SANDIGANBAYAN has acquitted Philippine Postal Corp. (Philpost) president and Postmaster General Antonio de Guzman of graft charges for allegedly entering into a questionable contract with an air transport company in 2004.

In clearing De Guzman, the antigraft court's Second Division said the contract he entered into with Aboitiz One Inc. for the delivery of mail in Luzon was not grossly and manifestly disadvantageous to the government.

The charge against De Guzman was based on findings of the Commission on Audit (COA) that the contract with Aboitiz, which charged Philpost P8.50 for every kilogram of mail, was irregular.

The COA had said that there was no formal written contract between Philpost and Aboitiz, only a letter, that the transaction was not approved by Philpost's board of directors, that there was no public bidding, and that the price agreed upon was disadvantageous to the government, especially since Air 21 had offered to charge only P4.95 per kilo of mail.

When the contract with Aboitiz was entered into, De Guzman was the Philpost officer in charge since then Philpost head Bienvenido Tiburcio was on leave.

According to the Sandiganbayan, the taxpayer in the contract with Aboitiz was not present.

It said the prosecution's basis for questioning the P8 per kg charge was its comparison with the P5 per kg rate under the earlier 2003 contract between Philpost and Aboitiz.

It said the prosecution should have compared the 2004 contract with what Philpost had been spending when it entered into the 50-per kg deal with Aboitiz.

## P22 cost to Philpost

It noted that the 2003 contract with Aboitiz was terminated in 2003, and that after that Philpost began using its own personnel and delivery vehicles. This operation cost Philpost P22 per kg of mail based on its own study.

The same study recommended that Philpost outsource its Luzon mail run to P8 per kg, and this was endorsed to De Guzman. De Guzman, finding it to Philpost's advantage, approved the recommendation.

In the way was the 2004 agreement with Aboitiz entered into, the court said.

"The prosecution failed to refute by competent evidence that at the time the assailed contract with Aboitiz for the carriage of mail for its Luzon mail run, Philpost was spending P22 per kg of mail," the court said.

"The court is of the view that this is the point that should be considered the yardstick and not the old point of P5 per kg to determine the reasonableness of the 2004 transaction with Aboitiz," it added.

Air 21's bid could not be compared to Aboitiz's because Air 21 withdrew its bid after realizing that the cost it proposed was not viable, and also because Air 21's bid was not given in the information, it added.

As for the lack of a public bidding, the court said this was true, but the government law allows the exemption of the public bidding rule.

# UK sees PH as an 'emerging power'

By Jerry E. Esplanada

THE BRITISH government at least recognizes the potential of the Philippines to be an "emerging power" in the world.

During a May 13 meeting with leaders of the Filipino community in London, British Ambassador to the Philippines Stephen Lillie noted that Manila has been "growing in economic and political significance."

Lillie expressed confidence the Philippines will "play an increasingly big and important role in the world," the Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

Today, the foreign office will host the second high-level meeting between Manila and London.

The Philippine and British delegations will be headed by Foreign Undersecretary Alfonsi Haridis and Director Peter Wilson of the DC Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Asia-Pacific Directorate, respectively.

"The talks will take up a variety of issues on bilateral relations and political, economic, migration and consular matters," said DFA Assistant Secretary J. Eduardo Malaya.

According to Malaya, the DFA spokesperson, "these include the Mindanao peace process, public-private partnerships, exchange of business missions, and Philippine-European Union issues like the Philippine-EU Cooperation Agreement."

## Strategic shift

The first high-level meeting between the two countries was held in 2009 in the British capital.

Last week, UK Foreign Secretary William Hague announced a "strategic shift" for the overseas network of their foreign Office that would extend its global reach and strengthen its ties with "emerging powers, such as the Philippines," Malaya said.

Meanwhile, Lillie expressed hope "for some bright future awaits the people of Mindanao," as he cited the success of the Northern Ireland peace process.

In a statement, Lillie reaffirmed the UK's support of the peace process in Mindanao, saying that "our experience in Northern Ireland has taught us firsthand that peace is a condition for prosperity, and this condition applies to the Philippines as it does to every country."

Belfast is "now ranked as the UK's second most attractive city—after London—for foreign direct investment, particularly in the technology and financial services sectors. In 1996, unemployment was 17 percent. Today, it is less than half that," said Lillie.

## Economic boom

Lillie expressed optimism Philippine economic expansion the same economic boom. But he said the region's "future hinges on the success of the peace-building efforts."

At the same time, the British government lauded the significant contributions of the Filipino community to the United Kingdom, the Philippine Embassy in London reported.

Speaking at a roundtable discussion arranged by the embassy and the Philippine Desk of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office recently, Lillie noted that 60 tykes have made "a varied and diverse contribution to British society and the British way of life."

Lillie said he was very pleased to see the new Philippine government has recognized the potential of the Philippines as an "emerging power" and the importance of developing an "even stronger and dynamic" bilateral partnership.

He explained that as an emerging power, the Philippines has been "growing in economic and political significance, and will play an increasingly big and important role in the world."

The roundtable represented a cross-section of the Filipino community, with around 20 community leaders representing such sectors as nurses, postal workers, household workers, students, second-generation Filipinos and businessmen.

There are approximately 250,000 Filipinos living in the United Kingdom, most of them employed in the health sector in the Greater London area.

On the other hand, some 18,000 Britons live in the Philippines, mostly ex-expatriates, spouses and retirees. With a report by Thea G. Jamino


THE DAILY GOSPEL

MAY 23 (Monday)
Psalter: Week 1
Solemnity of Easter
Ps 118:1-2, 14-15, 16-18, 22-24
Give to us, O Lord, but to your name give the glory.

1st Reading: Acts 14:5-18

A mere win made by pagans and Jews, regardless unto their leaders, to harm their apostles and to stone them. But Paul and Barnabas instead of this and fled to the Lycaonian towns of Lystra and Derbe. ... There was a crippled man in Lystra who had never been able to stand or walk. One day as he was listening to the preaching, Paul looked intently at him and saw that he had the faith to be healed. So he spoke to him in a loud voice, "In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I say to you, stand you to stand up on your feet!" And the man stood up and began to walk around.

When the people saw what Paul had done, they cried out in the language of Lycaonia, "The gods have come to us in human likeness!" They named Barnabas Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, since he was the chief speaker.

Gospel: Jn 14:21-26

Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever keeps my commandments is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and show myself clearly to him."

Judas—not the Iscariot—asked Jesus, "Lord, how is it that you mean to show yourself clearly to us and not to the world?" Jesus answered him, "If anyone does love me, he will keep my word and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make ourselves at home. But if anyone does not love me, he will not keep my words, and these words that you hear are not mine but the Father's who sent me.

"I told you all this while I was still with you. From now on the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of all that I have told you."

Reflection:

Love enables us as a special ability to see our beloved now if others could not make him or her out of the air of haze that surround us, like even the knee could discern their presence, no distance or time, not even death could separate us from the love we have for them. This intense experience a dazzling sensation that our beloved departed are there in our midst praying to a visit. At last could even overcome the problem of physical incorporation to devote a personal relationship with our departed loved ones rather to be fixated by the lack of sense perception. It is because of this that Jesus would assure Himself clearly to us for it obscures to the world.

Christian Communications Foundation, Inc., 4 Mapagsa St. UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP PO, Tel. # 981-8500 (DID Direct) 981-85-86 / 981-8500 (Trunk Line) Fax # 981-8500 (Trunk Line) Email: ccf@ccf.ph, Website: http://www.christianworldcenter.com, http://www.facebook.com/christianworldcenter

BUY ONE TAKE ONE $99
Mountain World Travel, Inc.

DOLJUNTS

SKYNET TRAVEL
MANILA

Sunny Summer Tours

need a job?

JORDAN, EGYPT & ISRAEL
EGYPT
HAPPY TRIPS TOURS, INC.

HONGKONG BUY 1 TAKE 1 PACKAGE
SANS TRAVEL & TOURS

CHEAP
AIRLINE TICKETS & TOURS
24 hours Flight Reservation visit
www.mytravel.com.ph
MIT
MANILA INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURS

China Panorama
Beijing 4 Days
w/ Shanghai / Guangzhou / Guilin / Xiamen 8 Days
Beijing, Tianjin, Chengde, Qinhuangdao 5 / 7 Days
Shanghai 3 / 4 Days
Shanghai, Suzhou / Hangzhou 4 / 5 Days
Guangzhou (Canton) 3 / 4 Days
Guangzhou, Foshan, Zhaoqing 5 Days
Guangzhou, Guilin 5 Days
Beijing, Shanghai, Guilin, Guangzhou 9 / 10 Days
Beijing, Xian, Guilin, Shanghai 9 / 10 Days
Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Guilin, Guangzhou 11 / 12 Days
Beijing, Guilin, Guangzhou, Xiamen 8 / 9 Days
Yangtze River Cruise Tour 3 / 4 Days
Three Gorges
Xi'an Pulan Pilgrims 4 Days
Around CHINA Tours
Silk Road, Shangri-la, Tibet, Inner Mongolia, Zhangjiajie, Huangshan Peak, Zhangjiajie Tianzi Forest Park, Western of Yunnan and Other Scenic Area, also the Treasured Delight and Cultural Heritage Tour
BEIJING ↔ SHANGHAI via Bullet Train only 4 hours starting June 2011
International Horticultural Exposition 2011
Xi'an China 4/29 to 10/22
Please inquire with us for
"SPECIAL BLOCKING DEPARTURE"
or SPECIAL OFFER
PANDA TRAVEL SERVICE INC.

RAKSO TRAVEL
(02) 832.9667
BEIJING-SHANGHAI COMBO 583
KOREA SUMMER GETAWAY 845
AFFORDABLE TURKEY 1448
JUNE 19-26
KOREA LAND ARRANGEMENT 339
MYSTICAL TAIWAN 847
AUSTRALIA 661
HOKKAIDO 966
DUBAI 223
AMAZING INDIA 484
HOLYLAND 670
PALAU 1,888
GUAM 1,888
SAMAR 1,888
LEYTE 1,888
CEBU 1,888
BOHOL 1,888
DAVAO 1,888
BUTUAN 1,888
CAGAYAN DE ORO 1,888
ILIGAN 1,888
ZAMBOANGA 1,888
KIDAPAWAN 1,888
COTABATO 1,888
KORONADAL 1,888
GENERAL SANTOS 1,888
DIGOS 1,888
TAGBILARAN 1,888
ILOILO 1,888
BACOLOD 1,888
KALIBO 1,888
CATICLAN 1,888
TACLOBAN 1,888
ORMOC 1,888
TUGUEGARAO 1,888
LAOAG 1,888
BAGUIO 1,888
CAMIGUIN 1,888
DUMAGUETE

# Diokno fate hinges on his explanation, says Aquino

From page A1

inquiry into possible administrative lapses, Diokno and other prison officials face in the wake of the Leviste caper.

Speaking to reporters after attending the graduation exercise of the University of the Philippines' College of Medicine at Diliman University, Quezon City, Mr. Aquino said he hoped the justice department could complete its investigation by Wednesday, or before he leaves on Friday for a two-day state visit to Thailand.

He said he recommend Diokno to a meeting on Thursday and asked him "how this happened."

"He had some initial answers but I was not happy with them," the President said.

## Chance to explain

Mr. Aquino stressed that the investigation had not been completed and that Diokno—reportedly a close friend of his—would be "given a chance to explain."

The President said he asked Diokno how it was possible for Leviste to enjoy "living-out" privileges despite being convicted of killing his former aide Rafael de los Santos. Leviste was convicted of homicide in January 2009 and sentenced to a jail term ranging from six to 12 years.

"Normally, a living-out privilege is given if the convict is in the committee period...he is not to break in society because he is about to be pardoned or paroled," the President said.

He defined "living-out" privilege as "not being in a cell but within the New Bilibid Prison compound."

"How should we then think that this person who had just removed jail already has this kind of privilege?" Mr. Aquino said.

## Always on the ball

Mr. Aquino said he had also ordered the justice department to look into reports that the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) was "30 percent overcrowded" and that its correctional officers were not getting salary increases.

"We need a director of the bureau who is on the ball all the time," he added.

Asked to comment on claims that he was able to flee because weather bureau chief Prisco Nilo immediately lost your (the supposed treasonous weather forecasting), but not Diokno because the latter was his friend, the President denied Nilo was entitled to flee but was given the chance to fix the forecasting system.

Told that the weather bureau was still supposedly unable to report accurate forecasts every hour, as it had promised, Mr. Aquino disagreed, saying he had been able to get weather reports on time.

"I think I would suggest you go to their website. If that's the case that [reporting is unable], marry sin locum—then direct all the people who will have to explain. And if they don't explain properly they would be removed," he said.

## Diokno's reserve

Diokno claimed in an interview with the Inquirer yesterday that he was in the course of dismantling the privilege system at the national penitentiary when the Leviste incident happened.

"When I came into office in October, I met with prison officials to discuss how to put an end to the system," he said. "In fact, I issued a memorandum on Dec. 2 where I directed all prison officials to monitor the movements of prisoners with 'living-out' privileges."

National Bureau of Investigation agents arrested Leviste and his driver Nilo Salin on Wednesday at a building Leviste owns in Makati City. Leviste claimed he was not hiding from a warrant, which made him seek treatment outside the NBP reservation.

State prosecutors have charged Leviste with evasion of service of sentence. Salin was declared an accomplice.

Diokno said he believed "certain personal" silence times he "might have stepped on" could be exploiting the situation. He did not elaborate but indicated the furor over Leviste might have something to do with the reforms he was introducing to the national penitentiary.

He reiterated the "living-out" privilege Leviste had enjoyed was given to him by his predecessor, Oscar Calderon.

## Resource persons

Justice Undersecretary Francisco Baraan III, head of the fact-finding panel, said he would conduct his probe at the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) in Muntinlupa. Leviste, Diokno, and other prison officials and guards have been invited as "resource persons."

"The investigation will be conducted from Monday to Wednesday and the panel's report will be submitted to Justice Secretary Leila de Lima, "who will inform President Aquino of our recommendations," Baraan said.

The other panel members are Senior State Prosecutors Susan Deveraty and Ma. Emilia Victoria, NBI Director for Intelligence Services Noel Landa, and private lawyers Wilberto Lolong and Charlene Mae Tapia.

The panel has been ordered to find out, among others, whether prison officials and guards were grossly negligent in their duties or had connived with Leviste to give him VIP treatment.

Baraan said the justice department could sanction or dismiss other Bureau and NBP officials who are civil servants but not Diokno.

"That is not our call," Baraan said. "He is a presidential appointee. Later on, depending on the outcome of the investigation, we can recommend (sanctions) to the President." With reports from Aurora Aning

DIOKNO

MAGNETIC DRILL

(02)-887-88-77

idec
Split Type Wall Mounted Aircon
1hp-P16,500
INVERTER SERIES
FREE INSTALLATION

Free installation!
100liters-P18,500

Indigo
Prefab Villa
Prefab Classroom
Container House
Modified Prefabricated Bunkhouse
20Ft P150,000 Free Installation

Diesel meets Speed
at ₱129,000
ALL-IN Low Downpayment
The 2011 FOCUS TDCi
Now with an introductory price of ₱1,099,000
2.0L Commonrail Direct Injection Turbo Diesel Engine, 21km/L fuel economy (2008 DOE Rating), 6-speed Dual Clutch Automatic Transmission, Leather Seats, Automatic Rain Sensing Wipers, Dual Zone Automatic Aircon, ABS and ESP, Automatic Headlamps.
Sedan and Hatchback
Ford Philippines
Peel the difference
fordcom.ph

TUMUTOK SA PINAKA-BIG TIME GAME SA

More than ₱50M

Tumutok sa:

START COLLECTING YOUR TST POINTS NOW! FOR MORE INFO, TEXT TST

A TV, RADYO & ONLINE MULA SA SMART!

worth in prizes!

ebook

ON TO 8850

Pwedeng mag-uwi ang big shot winners ng
free load at ₱10,000 daily,
₱100,000 weekly
at up to ₱5 million sa bonus round!

presented by SMART

# Singapore's political life without Lee Kuan Yew

From page A9

page with the younger generation as well."

Lee, 87, was prime minister from 1959 to 1990, after which Goh took over until 2004. Lee served as minister mentor, while Goh was senior minister since 2004. Both were parliament seats in the May 7 general election.

Their retirement, however, merely exiled power to the current prime minister, Lee Hsien Loong, son of Lee Kuan Yew, and provided "a fresh clean slate" to the prime minister and his team.

"The time has come for a younger generation to carry Singapore forward to a more difficult and complex situation," the statement said.

### Authoritarianism over

With Lee's retirement, the era of his authoritarian rule came to an end. But the polls returned the PAP in control, although with a reduced majority in parliament.

The PAP won only 60 percent of the vote, down from 67 percent in 2006 and 75 percent in 2001. The opposition Worker's Party won six seats. The most it has held since 1965.

The PAP won 81 of 87 parliamentary seats but was reported to have been dearly shaken by an increase in the total opposition vote to 50.9 percent from one-third in 2006.

The opposition captured the five-seat metropolitan of Aljunied, unseating Foreign Minister George Yeo of the PAP. The opposition described its win as a political landmark.

### More open government

The prime minister said the election result "marks a distinct shift in our political landscape," adding that "many Singaporeans" wish for the government to adopt a different style and approach. Many desire to see more opposition voices in parliament to check the PAP.

He said his party would undergo some "soul-searching" and expressed willingness to work with opposition MPs.

LEE KUAN YEW
Former Prime Minister of Singapore

Political observers said the younger Lee's statements foreshadowed a more open and politically tolerant environment, departing from the stern and restrictive government of the elder Lee, who in his long term, had sent some of his opponents to jail and curtailed political criticism to parliament and to the news media.

BBC's Southeast Asia correspondent Rachel Harvey said this development had opened up greater space for debate in a country where traditional platforms—TV, radio and newspapers—are strictly controlled.

As founder member of the PAP in 1954, the elder Lee, according to Financial Times (FT), "is regarded as the architect of modern Singapore," setting it on a free market course designed to attract investment. But has given the city island-state the second-highest living standard in Asia, after Japan.

In the last 10 years, the PAP has had steadily declining support. In 2001, its support was still at 75 percent. In the 2006 general election, it dropped to 67 percent. Now, it stands at only 60 percent.

### Transition to new era

FT reported that the retirement of the two elder statesmen had few implications for policy since the government had already undertaken measures to address issues such as high immigration, income disparity and the price of government-subsidized housing.

The newspaper reported that, according to Eugene Tan, a political specialist at Singapore Management University, the changing of the guard suggested the PAP was serious about its promises to reconnect with the younger voters.

"Gentleman's policy is seen as beating the empire of (Lee Kuan Yew) ... The fact is that the announcement comes a week after the general election and the votes did not take kindly to what some might say was negative campaigning by (the elder Lee)," Tan said.

"We are transitioning toward a post Lee Kuan Yew era, and many did not expect it to come so soon. But it is not a revolution. That is not the way government is conducted in Singapore."

### Rising urgency

According to Wall Street Journal (WSJ), the Workers' Party benefited from good timing.

"The election coincided with growing discontent with PAP economic policies," WSJ said. "How media allowed dissenters to challenge the government. A greater number of talented candidates joined the opposition ranks, boosting their party's credibility with the voters."

Apparently shaken by the poll result, Prime Minister Lee reshuffled his Cabinet, giving greater responsibility to Finance Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam in a move to regain voters' confidence, according to WSJ.

The report said the reshuffle indicated "a rising urgency within Mr. Lee's inner circle to shake up the country's political establishment and cut ties with leaders seen as too aloof or too resistant to new ideas."

### Open to reform

According to some analysts, the personal changes will result in greater authority for the younger Lee after years in which his father was seen as having significant influence.

Tharman will assume the role of deputy prime minister and become chair of the Central Bank, WSJ said. K. Shanmugam was named foreign affairs minister, besides retaining his post as minister for law.

Tharman is expected to "boost tolerance of a broader spectrum of views," including a more vigorous opposition, and more open to reform than entrenched politicians.

Prime Minister Lee said in a news conference that he was aiming for "a comprehensive reshuffle, not just incremental changes." He said the ministers "will have a free hand to rethink and reshape policies."

According to WSJ, analysts generally don't expect major policy changes.

"Its main policies have included an emphasis on free trade, efficient infrastructure and clean bureaucracy—all of which helped make the wealthy city-state a hub of the world's most important financial centers," the newspaper said.


HUB a great time!

Enjoy seat sales from our Cebu hub and more!

Sale Period: May 21-23, 2011 • Travel Period: Jul. 1- Sep. 30, 2011

DOMESTIC SEAT SALE — LiteFARE

₱599 — Cebu to Manila, Bacolod, Boracay (Caticlan), Butuan, Cagayan de Oro, Clark, Davao, Dipolog, Dumaguete, General Santos, Iloilo, Legazpi, Ozamiz, Pagadian, Puerto Princesa, Siargao, Surigao, Tacloban or Zamboanga

INTERNATIONAL SEAT SALE — LiteFARE

₱1,499 — Manila to Brunei or Ho Chi Minh; Cebu to Hong Kong or Singapore

₱2,999 — Manila to Busan, Incheon or Jakarta; Cebu to Busan or Incheon

| DOMESTIC — LiteFARE | | INTERNATIONAL — LiteFARE | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ₱499 | Manila to Virac | ₱999 | Clark to Hong Kong or Singapore |
| ₱589 | Manila to Coron (Busuanga), Iloilo or San Jose (Mindoro) | ₱1,599 | Manila to Kota Kinabalu or Singapore |
| ₱649 | Manila to Bacolod, Catbalogan, Catarman, Kalibo, Legazpi, Naga or Tuguegarao | ₱2,099 | Manila to Guangzhou or Taipei |
| ₱699 | Davao to Cagayan de Oro | ₱2,599 | Manila to Hong Kong or Macau; Clark to Macau |
| ₱749 | Manila to Puerto Princesa, Tacloban or Tagbilaran | ₱3,599 | Manila to Bangkok or Kuala Lumpur; Clark to Bangkok |
| ₱999 | Manila to Dumaguete, Laoag or Roxas | ₱4,599 | Manila to Beijing or Shanghai |
| ₱1,099 | Manila to Boracay (Caticlan) or Cagayan (Isabela); Davao to Iloilo | ₱5,999 | Manila to Osaka |
| ₱1,299 | Davao to Zamboanga | | |
| ₱1,449 | Manila to Cagayan de Oro, Davao or Zamboanga | | |
| ₱1,849 | Manila to Butuan, Catarman, Dipolog, General Santos, Ozamiz, Pagadian or Surigao | | |

Limited time sale only. Limited availability. Fares are non-refundable. Fares are exclusive of government fees, taxes and fuel surcharges. Flight changes must be made more than 24 hours before scheduled time of departure. At time of booking, pre-purchase your baggage allowance to save time and money at check-in. Cebu Pacific terms and conditions of sale apply and are available online at http://www.cebupacificair.com/Pages/terms-conditions.aspx

Book only 16 am 4pm to Manila, 0830 0930 to Cebu or visit the travel agent near you.

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/cebupacificair

Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/cebupacificair

CEBU PACIFIC AIR.COM

Book at http://www.cebupacificair.com

BDO

JOB sa LIBRE

You can now checkout more jobs from JobMarket Libre

For advertisers, inquire about the Job Market package at 631-0000 loc. 314

JOB Market

# End-of-the-world prophecy ends in jokes

From page A1

dictions. It appeared on Saturday that no mankind had survived, with few if any signs of the end of the world.

Across America and around the globe, the deadline of the so-called "Rapture" arrived with little fanfare, and even fewer worthy souls ascending dramatically to heaven.

The prophecy by Harold Camping, an 89-year-old Christian radio entrepreneur, had gained traction in the popular imagination worldwide as a result of a multimillion-dollar advertising campaign, paid for and promoted by Family Radio International, a nonprofit network of more than 200 religious radio stations.

The media blitz included thousands of billboards and millions of pamphlets announcing in no uncertain terms that Judgment Day would start with powerful earthquakes at 6 p.m. on May 21, 2011, in each of the world's regions.

## Jokes percolate

As of late Saturday, however, planet Earth continued to spin in the cosmos as the jokes percolated through sports radio, comedy clubs and social networking sites.

At Family Radio's headquarters near the Oakland airport, scores of gathered at 6 p.m., mostly to party and poke fun.

Ed Robbins, who goes by Bishop Joey in the satirical group First Church of the Last Laugh, led several countdowns to Armageddon as workers drank beer, danced and released balloon balloons with blow-up dolls attached.

On the Internet, users also joked about creating a fake Rapture if Camping's prediction did not pan out. On Twitter, nonbelievers suggested taking out old clothing and shoes on pavements and lawns to give the impression that someone had indeed been teamed up, or releasing inflatable dolls into the sky.

The Craigslist website ran lines of thousands of ads from nonbelievers offering to buy the worldly goods of those who think they were going to heaven.

The group American Atheists hosted Rapture parties around the country but also warned of the danger of following Camping's predictions.

"We're hoping people look at this and learn to use their brains ... as we don't have an occurrence of this in 2012," when some believe the Mayan prediction for Earth's demise, said David Silverman, president of the US-based group.

## No comment

Camping's message has been broadcast in 61 languages. As Saturday drew nearer, followers reported that donations grew, allowing Family Radio to spend millions more on 5,000 additional billboards and 20 recreational vehicles decorated with the doomsday message.

Calls and e-mails to Camping and his group were not returned on Saturday.

Camping said he had calculated the exact day of the end of the world using a mathematical method involving various dates—and prophecies—derived from the reading of Scripture.

One of the first places to be hit, according to Camping, would be New Zealand—just 6 p.m. came and went with no earthquakes and little local media attention.

## Text from God

Many followers, however, said the delay of Judgment Day was a better test from God to persevere in their faith.

"While you say something and it doesn't happen, your pride is what's hurt. But who needs pride? God said he resists the proud and gives grace to the humble," said Family Radio's special projects coordinator Michael Germa, who spent Saturday morning praying and donating two last cups of coffee with his wife at home in Alameda.

But Dave Hester Reed, a pastor at Christian Reformed Church in Alameda, said he was particularly concerned about those who left their jobs and gave away their possessions in the days leading up to Saturday. Reports from New York Times News Service, AFP and AP

Find out how AIM can jumpstart your career.

The One Day AIM MBA allows you to experience AIM first hand. This program lets you experience the highlights of an AIM education in a day.

We introduce you to the case method, which AIM is known for, you get to listen to lectures and participate in interactive learning modalities facilitated by AIM's world-class professors.

Call us now and reserve a complimentary seat.

Scholarships are available.

AIM W. SyCip

National Federation of Sugarcane Planters (NFSP), Inc.

Head Office

Manila Office

An Open Letter

HIS EXCELLENCY BENIGNO AQUINO III
President, Republic of the Philippines

Dear President Aquino:

We represent the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters, Inc. (NFSP), the first and oldest countrywide organization of sugarcane planters' associations and cooperatives. All told, the country established in 1936.

Our membership is composed mostly of thousands of small farmers all over the country – from Cagayan in Luzon up north to Davao del Sur in Mindanao – who are dependent on sugar farming for the maintenance of their families.

We write to bring to your attention the plight of sugar-producing ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, the sugar industry for so many years now. All we ask is to give us a level playing field in the sugar trade with other

Last March, the Bureau of Customs apprehended Cebu-based CEO-connected rice at the Manila International Container Port (MICP) of all places, rice and not refined sugar which were misdeclared by the importers as Special Purpose and Paper Bond for the consignment so as to evade the payment of proper duties.

Prior to that, on October 2010, in very close Cebu-based sugar businessman Jose Emilio Abes Soco, allegedly a Customs Broker Board Examination.

In June and July 2010, a campaign team that the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) to Negros Anti-Smuggling Operations and the subsequent handcarry of bags of smuggled sugar from factories to warehouses and even to household dropping points in Negros Occidental.

Moreover, there has been an influx of unaccountably 50,000 metric tons of imported sugar planters and millers in the country last October to year 2010. Just the country's only two (2) Philippine Sugar Regulatory Administration Ma. Regina M. Martinez's analysis of the attached production, it was discovered that this estimated excess that NFSP received sugar Customs Commissioner

Another 50 acres already remain to be still improve 20 a hardly built house and provides on the unpaid household members to labor years.

Sugar smuggling both national and to local for sugar and domestic sugar prices, blunted sugar producers, particularly marginal farmers of the exploited fruits of their labor and investment. More importantly, it has denied the government of billions of pesos in much needed tax revenues that could have been used to enhance delivery of basic services to our people.

Mr. President, we implore you to take a more aggressive stance against smuggling of sugar, as well as smuggling of other agricultural commodities in the country.

We recommend to you the following:

1. The immediate prosecution of those importers, traders, and public officials who are involved in sugar smuggling.

2. The relief of Customs Commissioner who despite the appointment of a new Customs Commissioner, have remained in the Bureau of Customs and the performance of their functions.

3. The prompt issuance of Sugar Order by the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) to allow local sugar mills and refiners to import raw sugar only to the extent of the volume of sugar exported by mills and refiners, as a result, presumably, of increased domestic demand.

4. The confiscation of 50,000 metric tons of sugar illegally imported by Customs Broker Board Examination and the filing of criminal charges against them.

Your favorable action on these recommendations will assure the sustainability and viability of the sugarcane industry which is a key industry in sustaining the country's food and energy self-sufficiency.

Most respectfully yours,

ENRIQUE D. ROXAS
President

Mr. Ruben T. Villanueva – Vice-Chairman
Sumilao Progressive Farmers Cooperative, Inc.

Dr. Rizal G. Delfonso – President
Southern Negros Planters Association, Inc.

Mr. Rolando G. Cerilla – President
Sagua Sugarcane Planters Association, Inc.

Mr. Felipe Montes – President
Asia Sugarcane Planters Association, Inc.

Mayor Gabriel C. Bordado, Jr. – President
Cadiz Sugarcane Planters Association, Inc.

Atty. Peter P. Lacaylle, Jr. – President
Negros Occidental Planters Association, Inc.

Mr. Ramon J. Garcia – President
Negros Revitalization Association, Inc.

Mr. Ramon T. Lopa – President
Hda. Rosa Luz and Planters Assn., Inc.

Mr. Rafael S. Lopa – President
Hda. Rosa Luz and Planters Assn., Inc.

Mr. Jose Ramon G. Aboitiz – Vice-Chairman
Cebu Sugarcane Planters Cooperative

Mr. Leonardo L. Montemayor – Chairman
Victorias Sugarcane Planters Cooperative

Mr. Jaime Ma. Aboitiz – Director
Negros Occidental Planters Association, Inc.

Mr. Antonio Ma. Aboitiz – Director
Negros Occidental Planters Association, Inc.

Mr. Roberto S. Ocampo – Director
Cebu Sugarcane Planters Association, Inc.

Mr. Jaime Ma. Aboitiz – Director
Negros Occidental

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

# OPINION

## Marred?

PRESIDENT AQUINO'S appointment of incoming water czar Manuel Bonoan as chief of staff still needs an enabling administrative order, but it has already stirred the proverbial hornet's nest. Much of the criticism seems to be ultimately based on the notion that, because Bonoan lost the vice-presidential race, he should not be appointed to political office. This is a narrow view of political responsibility based on the over-broad positions that defeated candidates have been "rejected by the people."

**EDITORIAL**

Is it in fact the case that election losers should not be named to appointive offices at all? We cannot find a sanction for this extreme view either in the Constitution or in a hundred years of Philippine politics. There is, however, an excellent constitutional provision imposing a temporary, one-year ban, contrary to what one may expect, this provision is found not in the section governing elections or in the section on the accountability of public officers, but in the section providing for a stronger civil service.

Article IX, Part II, Section 6 reads: "No candidate who has lost in any election shall, within one year after such election, be appointed to any office in the Government or any Government-owned or controlled corporations or in any of their subsidiaries."

Now why is that? The provision is meant to safeguard government service, by preventing it from being turned into a catch-all for suddenly jobless politicians. But if that is the case, why limit the ban to one year? Because democracy itself is sustained by a firm belief in the second chance. One year ought to be enough time for a defeated candidate to learn the lessons of defeat; for the burden of ordinary citizenship to leave an imprint on an ex-political; above all, for public opinion to begin to change its mind.

In he sum, there is a type of appointment that should not be made even after the one-year ban: When a defeated candidate is appointed to a position that undermines the intent of the election that sent him to his defeat. A mayor-turned out of city hall, for example, should not be appointed to an office that would allow him to encumber the work of his successor. To sharpen the example: A defeated candidate for either mayor of Olongapo or a congressional district in Zambales should not be named chair of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, which plays an inordinate role in local politics, before the next election; that would be to mock the electorate in Olongapo or Zambales.

The case with defeated candidates for national office is a little more ambiguous. It did not seem right then, and it still doesn't seem right now, that Gloria Arroyo appointed defeated senatorial candidate Prospero Pichay as head the Local Water Utilities Administration; the loyal Pichay was merely being rewarded for spending millions of his money on a futile bid for the Senate. If Sen. Manny Villar had won the presidency, should he have appointed (Jinkee) Pacquiao senatorial candidate Sarah Discaya to high office? Considering that the two candidates sometimes found themselves at cross-purposes during the campaign, the answer would seem to be: It depends on the office. (Here's an intriguing counter-factual: What if Osmeña were appointed chair of the Commission on Human Rights?)

Appointment as reward; appointee as aligned policymaker with the appointing power. Perhaps no cut-and-dries two touchstones as one measure with which to determine whether an appointment should be welcomed or not. The naming of a defeated candidate as a political reward (payback, in the long and short of it) runs counter to the public interest; on the other hand, the naming of a defeated candidate because he shares the exact same political views of the President and is bound to the same constituent of the President campaigned on, is to frustrate the President's own election mandate.

It is on this basis that Bonoan's entry into the President's official family should be understood. He has a role to play in fulfilling the campaign promises he and President Aquino made.

There is of course the possibility that the unfortunate division of the higher echelons of the Aquino administration into two factions will be exacerbated with the appointment. That is the President's own lookout. But, in truth, the crisis is inevitable; either there will be an all-out confrontation, or reconciliation. If Bonoan' re-appearances on the scene will hasten the moment of resolution, then so be it.

Publisher **SANDY TICHAO**
Editor in Chief/CEO **ISAGANI YAMBOT**
Managing Editor **JOSE NIÑO D. MIRANDA**
Associate Editor **ARMANDO J. DOROY**
Associate Editor for Broadcasting **BENJAMIN K. CARREON JR.**
Opinion Editor **JOSE F. ANSALDO**
News Editor **ANTONIO T. CARPIO JR.** • Chief Page One Operations Head **ROY S. PEARSON**
Chief News Page Head **MARIA KATRINA C. ROXAS**
National Editor **PHILIPPINE B. REMOROSO JR.**
Senior Desk Editor **JOSE F. SACERDOTE JR.**
Editorial Consultant **ANDREW DONESSA**
Chief Photographer **ERNIE G. SUNGAHID**
Art & Design Director **LORETO S. VILLARIN**

Board Chairman **HOWARD S. PHOA**
President **ALEXANDRE PHOA-ROMUALDEZ**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **ROSARIO R. BARCENA**
Vice President for Advertising **ROSA R. OLANO**
Vice President for Info-Technology Head **JOSE G. LAMA**
Vice President for Finance **JOSE M. YU-ANGCO**
AVP for Circulation **MANUEL ANDREW S. CABANG IV**
Corporate Affairs Manager **CHARLIE R. GALAGNARA**

All rights reserved. Copyrighted material by the owner of the Philippine Daily Inquirer and/or respective author(s). Reproduction in any way, shape, manner or form without prior written permission.

## Loser wants to replace Lucy Torres in Leyte

POLITICIANS ARE learning quickly what it takes to lose an election, they can still win it in the Commission on Elections or, in the case of congressional and senators, at the House or Senate Electoral Tribunals. Each new scandal in vote may be much more expensive than the exact needed on election day itself, but only a very few of them are needed to win in the Comelec or at the HRET or SET.

You will recall our election for mayor of Lucena, Quezon. Judy Taguiwalo won that election, but the losers filed an election protest at the Comelec, and now the Comelec commissioners voted to replace the winner with somebody who did not even run for mayor but will succeed to the mayorship under the rules of succession, by a mere four votes of Comelec commissioners. Then, the votes of four men in Manila, who probably resided in Loyola, will replace the thousands of votes of Lucenahins.

The reason? Ramon Talaga, the three-term mayor of Lucena, filed his certificate of candidacy for reelection, but was disqualified. So his wife, Ruby Talaga, substituted for him. But she once criminally in the election and was proclaimed and became the incumbent mayor of Lucena.

But one of the losers would not give up, he filed an electoral protest, claiming that since the person was disqualified, there was no candidate to be substituted, and therefore Ruby's substitution was not valid and therefore her votes should not have been counted. So the candidate with the second highest number of votes, the protester and the defeated candidate, should be proclaimed.

However, the Supreme Court had declared, in case after case, that second placers cannot be declared winners because a majority of the people did not vote for them. That prompted the clamor for the so-called "succession provision" that is the law that the votes of successors provides that in case of vacancy in the mayorship, the vice-mayor succeeds to the position. Therefore he, the vice-mayor, should be declared the new mayor. But commissioners Luie Tito Guia and Al Bermejo oppose in the decision of the Comelec 2nd division which affirmed the election of Ruby.

The losers filed a petition for an en banc decision, and the commissioners who wrote the dissenting opinion grabbed the writing of the decision for the reclaim. An issue a draft does not declaring the vice mayor the valid mayor of Lucena until at least acting by other commissioners to sign his death decision.

There is a similar case in the fourth district of Leyte. Anna Richard Gomez filed his certificate of candidacy for the district but was disqualified. His wife, the beautiful Lucy Torres, substituted for him and was elected with 105,258 votes. She was proclaimed and is now the representative of the district in the House of Representatives. The losers, Democrito Caballo, filed a protest with the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal (HRET).

He claimed that since Gomez's certificate was denied due course or was cancelled by the Comelec, there was no candidate to speak of. Gomez could be substituted. Since the vote belonged to no candidate, and therefore Ruby's substitution was not valid and therefore her votes should not have been counted. So the candidate with the second highest number of votes, the protester and the defeated candidate, should be proclaimed.

However, the Supreme Court had declared, in case after case, that second placers cannot be declared winners because a majority of the people did not vote for them. That prompted the clamor for the so-called "succession provision" that is the law that the votes of successors provides that in case of vacancy in the mayorship, the vice-mayor succeeds to the position. Therefore he, the vice-mayor, should be declared the new mayor. But commissioners Luie Tito Guia and Al Bermejo oppose in the decision of the Comelec 2nd division which affirmed the election of Ruby.

The losers filed a petition for an en banc decision, and the commissioners who wrote the dissenting opinion grabbed the writing of the decision for the reclaim. An issue a draft does not declaring the vice mayor the valid mayor of Lucena until at least acting by other commissioners to sign his death decision.

There is a similar case in the fourth district of Leyte. Anna Richard Gomez filed his certificate of candidacy for the district but was disqualified. His wife, the beautiful Lucy Torres, substituted for him and was elected with 105,258 votes. She was proclaimed and is now the representative of the district in the House of Representatives. The losers, Democrito Caballo, filed a protest with the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal (HRET).

He claimed that since Gomez's certificate was denied due course or was cancelled by the Comelec, there was no candidate to speak of. Gomez could be substituted. Since the vote belonged to no candidate, and therefore Ruby's substitution was not valid and therefore her votes should not have been counted. So the candidate with the second highest number of votes, the protester and the defeated candidate, should be proclaimed.

**AS I SEE IT**

*Amad M. Ocampo*



However, the Supreme Court had declared, in case after case, that second placers cannot be declared winners because a majority of the people did not vote for them. That prompted the clamor for the so-called "succession provision" that is the law that the votes of successors provides that in case of vacancy in the mayorship, the vice-mayor succeeds to the position. Therefore he, the vice-mayor, should be declared the new mayor. But commissioners Luie Tito Guia and Al Bermejo oppose in the decision of the Comelec 2nd division which affirmed the election of Ruby.

The losers filed a petition for an en banc decision, and the commissioners who wrote the dissenting opinion grabbed the writing of the decision for the reclaim. An issue a draft does not declaring the vice mayor the valid mayor of Lucena until at least acting by other commissioners to sign his death decision.

There is a similar case in the fourth district of Leyte. Anna Richard Gomez filed his certificate of candidacy for the district but was disqualified. His wife, the beautiful Lucy Torres, substituted for him and was elected with 105,258 votes. She was proclaimed and is now the representative of the district in the House of Representatives. The losers, Democrito Caballo, filed a protest with the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal (HRET).

He claimed that since Gomez's certificate was denied due course or was cancelled by the Comelec, there was no candidate to speak of. Gomez could be substituted. Since the vote belonged to no candidate, and therefore Ruby's substitution was not valid and therefore her votes should not have been counted. So the candidate with the second highest number of votes, the protester and the defeated candidate, should be proclaimed.

All in all, Lucy appealed eight times to the House electoral tribunal (HRET) to stop the HRET hearing. All for naught. It all resulted in the conclusion that she was likely to lose the election protest against her in the HRET, thus paving the way for the hated to start hearing her case against her.

This is a case again of technicality vs. substance. If the technicality of Gomez's candidacy is denied, and therefore Lucy could not have validly substituted for him, should she have proclaimed winner of the election of more than 100,000 votes of the fourth district of Leyte? The people overwhelmingly signified that they wanted her to be their representative in Congress. Should a few HRET members nullify their wishes?

Disqualification is a favorite method of bids and unsolicited committees for government projects. Winning bidders are disqualified for one reason or another (and you can always find a reason to disqualify if you look for one) so that the bidder with the highest bid will be the one awarded. This is now also being done in the election battles.

* * *

I received two surprise visitors last week. They were carrying new peso bills, of different denominations, issued by the Philippine Central. They showered them to me one by one. Then they produced a white handkerchief and rubbed one of the peso bills on it. Some of the color from the peso bill was rubbed off on the handkerchief. They proved it were both a counterfeit bills. Case resolved. The ink of the new peso bill was being rubbed off!

What's happening here? Is this normal? I don't think so. This never happened before.

What does the new peso bills look like? Is it another new peso bills of low quality? Was the printing process substandard? The peso bills were printed by international printing companies specializing in the printing of bank notes. Was there an overnight sensation? What will happen if the peso bills are soaked in water? Will the ink run off? What if their are exposed for long periods to sunlight? Will the ink fade?

What do the new peso bills look like? Are they colorful or pagan? See the ink left on them. Will the Bangko Sentral please enlighten us on this?

## Not very great

**THERE'S THE RUB**

*Conrado de Quiros*

PEARL THE right hand growth, the left hand takeoh story.

A few days before he fought Shane Mosley Manny Pacquiao appeared before the press in Las Vegas with a message. He was going to put on a perfect glove for the fight, he said, to show that he wasn't just fighting Mosley, he was also fighting poverty. Below a of course P-boy's spiritual advice to Pacquiao's additional pitch was that he was in fact just fighting government in fighting it.

I was a little puzzled by why he fights that. Pac probably did so to portray what he did to Mosley that poor would be saved in no time at all. I said Pacquiao had nothing left to prove, he had no worthy opponents left to fight, it was time he wrote on as fights like bigger fights, like politics fight, like mano mano fight. The way Muhammad Ali did well before he cut out of opponents in the ring. If Pacquiao sends fighting poverty are ready, I said, he could mean the title of The Greatest ever from him.

But, I spoke too soon. A few days after he fought Shane Mosley Manny Pacquiao appeared before his countrymen with a message. He was going to be—the 8th Congressional District of Sarangani. And he wanted to encourage others to emulate it. Proof of it was that he had already beholden his wife from taking the pill after he married the man on it.

It's not me the solution to poverty, he said. Proof of it was that he came from a big family and both others let to now. Mip- ones ring Bi'ns food prevention.

Goodnight.

Now I'm thankful Pacquiao's fight with Mosley was not the classic one his previous fights—such Ryder Hamed, Miguel Cotto and Ricardo Mayorga—were. And it hurts us, he might have gotten a lot more money to sit still fighting the Bil Hill. Just as well, I'm thankful Pacquiao's forays into doing other than boxing haven't been, let that succinctly, his endorsed Manny Villar during the last elections, and 'fit, let him. It does suggest that Filipinos, rich and poor, may have gotten a little more discriminating—or a lot more cynical—over the years they are now able to choose a winner like he wasn't running on a real ticket.

I can only hope to God—yes him, or her—that the Filipino, before post, can use the same discrimination, or cynicism, as see through Pacquiao's arguments. If he really wants to do something about poverty, he can do it by simply getting busy a big and impoverished family. His four many people who come from big and impoverished families have the talent to see their through crushing adversity, not to speak of make them our collective richest family in history.

In any case, his argument is double-edged, showing as it does precisely what it means to be poor and some brains a big family. His reason packs get out of the rut is boxing, which is one of the precious few things left to someone caught up in that plight. How many Pacquiaos can possibly emerge from it? Look at Rolando Navarrete who once was on the ropes for boxing but has now been reduced to a pauper, begging for bouts and gimmicks from those who will remember the man once was. It's a cruel sport, unexceptional. Think of the thousands who, nor- or having gone past elementary school, if at all duty finished it, are reduced to having their brains battered for a pocket of cornbeef.

But look at Pacquiao, you'll see Rocky and hear, "Eye of the Tiger." You look at pinoy bench everybody else and you'll hear only Simon and Garfunkel's "The Boxer," particularly the part that says, "In the dusting made a boxer and a fighter by his trade/ And he carries the scars/ As evidence for the gold he's won and paid for." Or say "He's cried out/ In his anger and his doubts/ I am leaving, I am leaving, but the fighter still remains."

Till, the much keep saying, is not the solution to poverty. Of course not, as could be have time- ture by itself. Neither is land reform, neither is fighting corruption, neither is graduating from working class to middle class. But taken together, they do push back poverty and misery tremendously. Indeed, Bil alone may not solve poverty, but the lack of it solves poverty and misery all by itself. The absence of it deepens pain and misery all by itself. The absence of it fosters opportunities to spread benightedness and ignorance all by itself.

What is infuriating about all this is that the quality of life of the Filipino family should be determined by a bunch of men who have nothing to do with it. Not lawyers, not economists, not even doctors of thesis, they're fostering not a few of them themselves. And who are not poor, even those of them, like Pacquiao, came from poor stock. They will never be poor again, either- ence or mind and spirit.

These are the people who are how the new, esteem wailing of non-existent "reform children!" but cannot bear the burning of the tele- solar lamp or endure the sometimes of a husband demanding sex after coming home from schools- on spree, the screams of the woman as children's every year for as long as her body can bear the ravages of pregnancy throughout life (which is bound to be a short one), the sobs of despair when the children who left for school in the barrel they will home—when she could she do, she has a dozen months to flesh—that learned in the ground while she sowed in a wonderbag wedded food, or smoked chicken for the parish.

When the right hand giveth, the left hand taketh away. You can vow all you want to fight poverty, but you fight an effort to give patience, a crash as having only as many kids as they can give a life or future- to, you won't bear poverty, you'll just toss up the poor. Or you're just going to encourage them to turn into all Comes and strangers. That's not great.

That sucks.

# My stand on the RH Bill

**SOUNDING BOARD**

*Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.*

I HAVE been following the debates on the RH Bill not just in the recent House sessions but practically since its start. In the process, because of what I have said and written before, I have not joined the crowds that against the RH Bill). I have been called a heretic by a wealthy banker whom some months later were urged that I should invite the Church (which is insane), and one of those who regularly hears my Mass in the Ateneo Chapel in Rockwell came to me disturbed by my position. I feel therefore that I owe some explanation to those who believe me to be not totally wrong.

First, let me start by saying that I adhere to the teaching of the Church on artificial contraception even if I am aware that the teaching on the subject is far from unanimous and that doctrine by those who know current theology state I do. Moreover, I am not considered a Catholic and Jesuit in good standing by my superiors, critics nevertheless say.

Second (very important for me as a student of the Constitution and of church-state relations), I am not a student of the fact that we live in a pluralist society where various religious groups have differing beliefs about the morality of artificial contraception. But freedom of religion means more than just the freedom to believe. It also means the freedom to act or not to act according to what one believes. Hence, the state should not prevent people from practicing responsible parenthood according to their religious belief nor may churchmen compel President Aquino, by whatever means, to prevent people from acting according to their religious belief. In the Catholic tradition on the Social Teaching of the Catholic Church" says, "Because of the historical and cultural rise in a nation, a religious community might be given special recognition on the part of the State. Such recognition must in no way create discrimination within the civil or social order for civic efficiency and the development of moral character." (Article II, Section 12)

Fourth, I am pleased that the bill removes the prohibition of abortion as an assault against the right to life. Nevertheless pills and devices, if there are any in the market, should be banned by the food and drug administration. But whether or not there are could be a question of scientific fact of which I am no judge.

Seventh, I hold that there already is abortion any time a fertilized ovum is expelled. The Constitution commands that the life of the unborn be protected "from conception." But for this reason I like sexual life begins at fertilization and not at implantation.

Eighth, it has already been pointed out that the obligation of employers with regard to the sexual and reproductive health of employees is already dealt with in the labor Code. If the provision needs improvement or tightening, let it be done through an examination of the labor Code provision.

Ninth, there are many valuable points in the bill's Declaration of Policy and Guiding Principles which can serve the welfare of the nation and especially of poor women who cannot afford the cost of medical services. There are specific guidelines which give substance to these good principles. They should be upheld.

Tenth, I hold that public money may be spent for the promotion of reproductive health in ways that do not violate the Constitution. Public money is neither Catholic nor Protestant, but Muslim or what have you and may be appropriated by Congress for the public good without violating the Constitution.

Eleventh, I leave the debate on population control to sociologists.

Finally, I am happy that the CBCP has discovered the self-destructive nature of some clothes

# Notes from the 'Land of Lincoln'

**REVELLE**

*Ramon J. Farolan*

LAST YEAR my son Reuben and I escaped down to the US Embassy to renew our yearning tourist visas. The lines forming outside the consular offices may cause some apprehension particularly with first-time applicants but actually the system is quite orderly and efficient. It is the interview portion that usually determines approval or rejection of an application. In the case of my son, a bachelor lawyer in his 40s, he was asked why he wanted to go to the States. A simple question. He gave a simple answer—"I want to watch a live ballgame." The interviewing officer smiled and was convinced saying, "Have a great time!" (By the way, Major League Baseball and National Basketball Association games are the favorites. Like many Filipinos, he is not too familiar with American professional football.)

Early this month, I arrived in Chicago on my way to Washington, Illinois, for another "spa" excursion with two granddaughters who are undergoing the school year work in Barry and Manila. Chicago, Illinois, and, in particular, Washington was inducted into the Hoosier Chapter of the National Honor Society while her sister Nicole, 12, played the role of Princess Jasmine in a school presentation of "Aladdin." A champion ice skater, Nicole also won first place in a figure-skating competition at the Silver Bridges Ice Arena.

* * *

The Chicago Bulls had just made it to the semi-finals of the Eastern Conference of the NBA. And on my eleven son, Miguel, who practices at Edward Hospital in Naperville, took me to the United Center to watch the home game of the Chicago Bulls vs. Indiana Pacers series. The Bulls won that one 103-95, but went on to win the series and are now battling the Miami Heat for the conference championship. The winner of the Eastern Conference title comes then to Boston to Conference counterparts for the NBA championship. Right now the Heat's LeBron James is being shadowed by the Dallas Mavericks and the Oklahoma City Thunder.

A few observations. What makes for games colorful and exciting is not just the high caliber of play but also the entertainment provided by scientific and athletic cheerleaders during the games' numerous breaks. They whip the home crowd into frenzy during timeouts, there is swimming going on to keep the audience interested and happy.

At 33 years and seven months, Derrick Rose, point guard of the Chicago Bulls, is the youngest Most Valuable Player (MVP) in NBA history. Chicago Coach Tom Thibodeau was Coach of the four teams going the Windy City much to crow about. The greatest columnist in us is whether Chicago can topple the NBA title they last won during the Michael Jordan years.

* * *

Of possible interest to Filipino Catholics is an ongoing dispute between Cardinal Francis George of the Archdiocese of Chicago and one of his parishes, Holy Mother Pillgrim, parish priest of St. Isidore Catholic Church. The two have been at odds for some time now. Father Pillgrim was born in 1951 in Sabinas, Mexico. Appointed to the priesthood in 1981, Pillgrim has several attempts to re-assign him to the past, threatening to leave the priesthood if this was done. For some reason, he was able to continue as St. Isidore. Last March, however, Cardinal George announced that Pillgrim would be assigned to high school, to public ministry. Pillgrim intervened that he would have the Church rather than accept another position outside St. Isidore. This time, Cardinal George suspended Pillgrim from his ministries and banned him from performing Catholic sacraments such as administering marriages, hearing confessions, or administering the sacrament. In a letter to Pillgrim released to the media, Cardinal George wrote that "This conflict is not between you and me, it's between you and the Church that ordained you a priest, between you and the Church that nourished you in Christ and gives you the right to preach and to minister. I am sorry that your personal struggle you have already left the Catholic Church and are therefore not able to partake in Catholic parish."

It is difficult to understand why any priest would go against the orders of the superior particularly with regard to sacramental matters, but after 30 years in the ministry, perhaps Pillgrim has a point. Not being a member of the clergy, I am not familiar with CBCP policy on duration of pastoral assignments, but any terms of three years such would seem just right for anyone. Pillgrim was at his post for 30 years.

* * *

End of an era. After 22 years as Chicago Cubs manager, Richard M. Daley finally stepped down from public office, giving way to Rahm Emanuel, former White House chief of staff.

The new mayor, Chicago's 44th chief executive, is the second of only two Filipino immigrants who were elected to the area in 1937. The original Italian surname was Rambaldi but was changed to Emanuel to meet a family member who was killed in a fight with fellow in Palestine. The oldest boy, Ezekiel, is an oncologist and one of the nation's leading bioethicists. The youngest, Ariel, is a well-known and influential Democratic political operative. The middle boy, Rahm, served two terms in Congress and two years as Obama's right-hand man.

In an interview with the Chicago Tribune, Emanuel's mother Marsha summed up the family feelings: "My father came to Chicago in 1937 with $4 in his pocket. Only two generations later, his grandson is elected mayor. I don't even know how to describe it. What's the word the Irish use today? Awesome, that's it, awesome."

As for city leadership change was taking place, the re-trial of former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich on corruption charges was running on and on. The case has many of the hallmarks of former public officials who are serving prison terms for criminal convictions.

* * *

According to the Census Bureau, Indiana have surpassed Filipinos as the nation's 2nd largest Asian group after Chinese. In 2000, Filipinos were the 2nd largest group of Asians in the U.S. The 2010 Census showed that Asians grew at the same 43 percent rate as Hispanics from 2000 to 2010. There are now 14.5 million Hispanics and 14.5 million Asians. California still dominates the list of those with the greatest number of Asians—4.8 million—or twice as many as the second state of New York and New Jersey traditionally had the largest concentration of Indians, but the data now shows that the Valley has lured substantial numbers of IT and software programming professionals seeking high-tech job opportunities.

# A tragedy of errors

**KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO**

*Norodyn Mastafa*

[illegible] Antonio Montalvo was abducted by armed men during Monday's rally in front of Zamboanga City's police station 7 (Tetuan) in the area of both Mayor Celso Lobregat and Vice Mayor Cesar Climaco Jr. Lobregat is the nephew of Rep. Erico Basilio Fabian Climaco Jr. (Lakas-Kampi, Zamboanga City) and the late Zamboanga City Mayor Cesar Climaco Sr. (Liberal Party).

Montalvo was abducted by armed men during Monday's rally in front of Zamboanga City's police station 7 (Tetuan) in the area of both Mayor Celso Lobregat and Vice Mayor Cesar Climaco Jr. Lobregat is the nephew of Rep. Erico Basilio Fabian Climaco Jr. (Lakas-Kampi, Zamboanga City) and the late Zamboanga City Mayor Cesar Climaco Sr. (Liberal Party).

According to the police spokesperson report of the NDEC-WSA, Montalvo was arrested after three months of "investigative build-up" and that he was "positively identified" by eyewitnesses. However, a report also stated that "Montalvo was listed in the 2008-2012 monetary reward list with P1,500,000 for his neutralization" (underscoring mine).

Antonio Montalvo was distinctively detained and transferred to Camp Bagong Diwa in Bicutan and committed on Aug. 3, 2010.

But the points the operatives arrested and who was subsequently known to the Bicutan jail was not Antonio Montalvo.

The real Antonio "Tonyo" Montalvo (who was 13 years old at the time of the kidnapping), witnesses at the time of the arrest, his brother Abiel Mikeyh, his cousin Raoul Sampang, and the owner of the coffee shop where they had ordered their coffee, all identified him as Montalvo. Added to their sworn statements narrating the arrest.

To support their claim as to his identity, and their position for his immediate release, the eyewitnesses submitted records from grades 1 to 6, his high school records, barangay certificates, voter's registration, elementary school graduation pictures were shown.

Because this was obviously another case of mistaken identity, the Public Attorney's Office in Tagaig filed at the Regional Trial Court a motion for his immediate release on Aug. 3, 2010.

On July 25, 2010, Bed Mabud of Lamitan, Basilan, was identified as Jerome Montalvo and arrested by operatives of the Zamboanga City Police Station 7 for the same crime, on the basis of a warrant of arrest issued by "Hon. Judge of Branch 58, Regional Trial Court, 9th Judicial Region, Jo-Jo Bello."

However, in a motion on the case issued by Judge Gerjaire R. de la Peña III, Regional Trial Court, 9th Judicial Region, Branch 12, Zamboanga City, the warrant of arrest was a mere photocopy of an arrest order issued by Presiding Judge Gerjaire R. de la Peña III, Regional Trial Court, Branch 12 of Pasig City, and that the investigator "Yolanda Flores Ly" supposedly of RTC Branch 3 of Jolo, Sulu, did not exist, therefore rendering the warrant false.

Bed Mabud is the brother of Jolo Police Chief Insp. Julio Bong Mabud, station commander of Zamboanga City Police Station 7, figured in the arrests of both Montalvo (Celso and Ben Ahmad, both described as "former Montalvo").

This, according to lawyer Edmundo Batista, commissioner of the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos and head of its paralegal division, was a case not only of mistaken identity but serious illegal arrest and detention by PNP personnel using a fake warrant of arrest.

Batista, in a letter to Interior and Local Government Jesse Robredo, dated Dec. 3, 2010 and received by the NCMF on Dec. 6, a copy of which was furnished this colonist, flabbled said "[on] the past seven, there have been many like Montalvo... innocent victims arrested and tortured by PNP personnel using fake warrants and regard for their rights. This must stop and those responsible must be held accountable, in a country that aspires for equality and rule of law such as ours, let us not allow abuse by our law enforcers to go unpunished."

Is this day the case across Mindanao, if he is still alive, has neither been found nor arrested. But we wonder how many more will be "positively identified" and dumped in Bicutan in the dark?

How many more "necessary evasals" will be claimed for his arrest? How many more alleged Abu Sayyaf will be exchanged for cash rewards?

* * *

Comments to rshajan.f@yahoo.com

# Do not bury Marcos in the Libingan

**COMMENTARY**

*Joan Miguel Luz*

THE DEFENSE of national leadership is measured by what a leader stands behind at the end of his or her term.

By this measure, Marcos was no great leader, much less a hero. His 20-year rule was in fact a failure. The Philippines he left behind in 1986 was worse off than in 1965 when he first took office.

• The last years of his term (1982-86) saw the country's economy shrink by over 10 percent. It took a decade thereafter for the economy to recover back to its 1982 level of 1982.

• When Marcos fled in 1986, 40 percent of all Filipinos were reduced to poverty earning less than $1 per person per day.

• By 1986, the International Debt of the Philippines had risen two-folds being his 26 years tenure to $26 billion, a huge amount of money that if properly utilized is more than for productive assets. Instead, a good part of it was used for cronyism projects and many assets of the unexplored, were used because cronyism projects.

• In 2011, the years of Marcos rule, corruption at the highest level siphoned off billions of dollars from public coffers into the private pockets of Marcos and his cronies.

• In 20 years of Marcos rule, the Philippines arrived from being the second strongest economy to be in to being a laggard.

This is not a necessary that would have made this country a new "Singapore," at the rate of Marcos apparently claims would have happened. It is completely going in the wrong direction.

Marcos claimed that he formed them a political company—an expense account for himself, his family and his cronies at the expense of everything else. And he created the dictatorship and lives to immortalize this. The last straw was the 1986 snap election which he thought to steal the presidency despite his failing health.

This was the reason behind the Edsa People Power revolution: To regain our democracy, to such was an ailing despot, to take back the economy from cronies and to restore basic human rights to the all.

After Edsa, we created a law making plunder a crime. The Bill of Rights was renewed in the Constitution. We re-established Congress to stand as one representative of the people (while Marcos abolished Congress and took over legislation through the infamous amendments to his decree of martial law). Congress has to take charge over a thorough judicial system that referred to Marcos on major decisions (notably Javellana v. Executive Secretary). All of these to correct the failings of Marcos.

Now, a massive cronies' army, the House of Representatives passes a resolution to honor Marcos with burial at the Libingan ng mga Bayani. Thank you to the commissioners this happen.

• We kicked out a dictator for plunder, corruption and incessant human rights for Congress to forgive, forget and to consider honoring with a place in our national cemetery?

• We legislated a law against plunder but will now honor the man who plundered our world in our national cemetery? Is the time place?

• We paid human rights victims of Marcos $1,000 each in compensation for Marcos' human rights violations and then honor the human rights violator with burial in the Libingan?

We would think we were blessed with national stupidity.

The story is also as our nation is gets. There are few individuals in this world whose remains are preserved for public viewing (surely the Church does think this improper if not obscene). Four communist leaders—Lenin, Mao Zedong, Ho Chi Minh and Kim Il Sung—and Marcos, the self-proclaimed new communism.

Today over half of the population was born after Marcos's term and many of them are already in the labor pool and by economy and others. This is a generation that President Benigno Aquino wants to include in his survey of artichoke to help historian in the Libingan or not. They will vote with no idea about the Marcos years.

Every Macapagal-Arroyo ally has signed the resolution and the patterns of power-motivation that will honor this country moving forward

# Stop Panglao reclamation

LETTERS

THE CONCERN of 15 scientists on the environmental impact of the P2.8-billion reclamation project near Bocaue Island should convince the Aquino administration and the local government unit from pursuing the 650-hectare Panglao reclamation project to avoid a potential catastrophic ruins affecting Boracay Island.

In a 17-page report, marine scientists from the University of the Philippines said the reclamation project (which involves 361.62 hectares of coastal waters in Caticlan and 1,140 hectares in Boracay) would adversely affect the island-wide slurry of the country's premier tourist destination. It would also alter the surrounding waters' current patterns, especially in the areas north of the jetty port in Barangay Caticlan, Malay town, where the sea channel termed Boracay is in the tow-ate.

The UP marine scientists' findings on reclamation projects are clear. They warn of massive destruction. We ask President Aquino and Environment Secretary Ramon Paje to stop the Panglao reclamation project which is even more devastating than the Bocaue reclamation project.

The Panglao project involves a 650-hectare man-made island. (The Bocaue reclamation has 80 hectares only and its impact is already devastating, according to environment experts.) It could lead to a geographic devastation, environmental holocaust and all-out massacre of fisherfolks' livelihood in Panglao, a fishing municipality. It will change the geography of Panglao and cause the resort's destruction. It will only pamper the national government's greedy, big commercial and economic setup, to the detriment of the environment and livelihood of the people for non-productive purposes and quick-profit ventures. The Aquino administration has no choice but to reject this project with finality.

—FERNANDO LARDIZABAL BICLE
national chair, Pamalakaya,
139-A Rainbow St.,
General Member, Quezon City

## Former CJ wrong on consent in Garcia case

WE'D ALL also respect Sen. Lim compelled to disagree with the May 11 column of former Chief Justice Reynato S Puno, wherein he concluded:

"Since the consent of the offended party—the State whose name is the People of the Philippines—was not obtained, then the plea bargain agreement is void. Neither the Chief nor the fifth category that consent for the Republic. Only the President [or his representative] can."

The issue of the plea bargain of retired Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia before the Sandiganbayan is inherently a judicial matter. Under the constitutional doctrine of separation of powers, the President cannot interfere during the trial of a criminal case. The State (People of the Philippines), or the Office of the Prosecutor, is (plenarily) represented by public/special prosecutors during the trial stage, and by the Office of the Solicitor General when a case is appealed to the Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court. In the Garcia case, the plea bargain agreement was jointly presented by the accused and the government prosecutors. Hence, the trial court had the right to rule on it. (In City Fiscal of Tacloban v. Judge Ubil, 82 SCRA 444), the Supreme Court ruled:

"Under Section 5, Rule 118 of the Rules of Court, all criminal actions commenced by complaint or information shall be prosecuted under the direction and control of the fiscal. [In the land, fiscal, ombudsman or the special prosecutors.] The fiscal represents the People of the Philippines in the prosecution of offenses before the trial courts in any case appealed to the Court of Appeals and trial courts, municipal circuit trial courts and the regional trial courts. However, when such criminal actions are brought to the Court of Appeals or this Court, it is the Solicitor General who does appear before the Bench of the Philippines on the Bench."

—BENJAMIN G. ILUSIARIO,
Ilusiario Law Office,
ilusiario@yahoo.com

## PNP claim on Muslim enclaves irresponsible

THE REPORT on the news item titled "Police watching Muslim enclaves for Abus and others," (Inquirer, 5/20/11), which quoted Chief Supt. Agustinus Cruz Jr. as saying that the Muslim communities in Metro Manila and nearby provinces have become safe havens for Abu Sayyaf members and other terrorist suspects fleeing military operations in Mindanao.

The PNP spokesperson apparently does not differentiate law-abiding Muslim Filipinos from terrorists. He should be hanged for his negligence. This is disturbing, it is irresponsible to make a statement implying that Muslim communities are harboring lawless elements and terrorists. The alleged admission of Arabani Sakiran and Apkarsi Indirub that they were staying with their relatives in the metropolis before they were nabbed by police intelligence agents cannot be a valid ground for making such a sweeping conclusion. The PNP statement equates a particular person with an act of snubbing. Sharing with relatives has been a practice among Muslim Filipinos since time immemorial.

Majority of Muslims in Metro Manila belong to the rank of professionals—lawyers, doctors, engineers, academicians, etc. There are also college students and workers in the government and the private sector, and some are engaged in business. Fearful of ending up as "collateral damage" of the civil strife in Southern Philippines, and to avoid the hardship the conflict has caused in their lives, these Muslims seek refuge seeking for a passive to contain the security of their families. It is unfair to link any Muslim community with criminal suspects.

The PNP's close monitoring of the Muslim communities in the metropolis for the possible presence of Abu Sayyaf members and other criminals should be cause for concern for every Filipino. Muslim or Christian or of whatever religion. In many instances, police have made arrests that turned out to be a dud, or a case of a mistaken identity or frame-up, and were without the necessary warrant of arrest.

We have a high regard for the PNP intelligence operatives, but it would seem that they still to make a distinction between "Muslims" and "Muslim communities," on one hand, and a "suspect," on the other. The mention of the name of a suspect, as done with non-Muslim suspects, should be enough—no need to mention the name just because the suspect is a Muslim.

Amid reports of harassment and acts of extortion done against innocent Filipinos, are of the sanctioned advice for our PNP to exercise prudence in arresting a Muslim suspect, as we do not our Muslim brothers and sisters that it is time we supported the government in its drive to catch the bad elements in our society, who pose a serious danger to our dearest brothers.

—RAQUIA M. YASIN
chief information officer,
National Commission on Muslim Filipinos,
ncmf_ncr@yahoo.com

## Why is the Air Force still using 'flying coffins'?

THE PHILIPPINE Air Force lost again yet another S-211 trainer jet. (Inquirer, 4/30/11) This type of jet has been in use by PAF for several years now. The government prides itself in having the best training facilities in Southeast Asia. The only question—does bragging rights mean it is why the PAF continues to use the S-211 for the training of its pilots despite the plane's disastrous record.

Sadly, since 2002 a total of six S-211s have crashed, killing a number of military pilots. Such a dismal record should prompt PAF's Logistic Group Systems to transition all phases of training the S-211 training jets, dubbed by one air force pilots as flying coffins, to its air maintenance.

Asian members like Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei use Bell trainer jets that are made in the United States and noted for their reliability and dependability. Why does the Philippines persist in using the S-211s which have figured in several accidents even before the air force converted to Bagay, Batasan and Gilbert aircraft?

All the remaining six S-211 trainer jets have been grounded. Let us hope that a thorough inspection, perhaps, they should be modified permanently.

—ROBERTO ZARCILLA,
18 Sulip Silver St., Sunnyheights,
Novaliches, Quezon City

# DND puts media lid on Gazmin-Liang talks

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

DESPITE CLAIMS to the contrary, the Department of National Defense (DND) has clamped a tight media lid on talks between Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin and visiting Chinese Defense Minister Gen. Liang Guanglie.

Liang, who is in the country for a five-day official visit until May 25, is set to hold talks with Gazmin and Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Oban Jr. on Monday morning at the DND office.

But no information about the agenda was forthcoming, other than that Liang would be given full military honors upon his arrival and that there would be no press conference afterwards.

"We are restricted from giving information outside of what they authorized us to release," Defense Undersecretary Eduardo Ano told the Inquirer by phone yesterday. "We have to respect the request of the Chinese as we are limited to what they have released."

Ano was referring to Liang's arrival statement issued by the Chinese Embassy on Saturday in which the general said he hoped his visit would help build mutual trust between "friendly neighbors."

"They are the ones controlling what we can release, we have to respect that," Ano continued.

Liang's visit marks the first by a ranking Chinese official under the Aquino administration amid fresh tension in the disputed Spratlys area in the South China Sea.

The DND earlier said Liang "oversees the day-to-day operations of the People's Liberation Army" and "plays a key role in the shaping of the People's Republic of China's policies on national security."

Ano said he had no information about the talking points in Monday's meeting. "But basically it's a goodwill visit," he said.

The AFP offered a broad statement ahead of the meeting, saying it was "looking forward to fruitful and productive interaction with the Chinese defense officials on matters pertaining to military affairs."

ATTENTION: CLASSIFIED ADVERTISERS

Inquirer Classifieds

CENTRAL COLLEGES OF THE PHILIPPINES

CENTRAL COLLEGES OF THE PHILIPPINES DOMINATES THE 2011 COOK IDOL COMPETITION

Central Colleges of the Philippines (CCP) dominated the recent Cook Idol Competition sponsored by Cook Magazine last May 14 at the SMX Convention Center during the 2011 International Food Expo (IFEX). The winning CCP students were:

- Ms. Elize Rota (1st place) with her entry Chicken in a Bikini (95%).
- Christian Gemoto (2nd place) with his entry Caldereta with a Twist (93%)
- Diana Mangawa. (3rd place) with her entry Mango-Peanut Cream Cake (91%)
- Gerald Pabalinas (5th place) with his entry Ogo Carbonara (88%)

ENROLLMENT AT CCP IS GOING ON!!!

52 AURORA BOULEVARD, QUEZON CITY
7153777 / 7150849 / 0919-2655932
www.ccp.edu.ph

PATTS
College of Aeronautics

C-to-C
Curriculum to Career
PROGRAM
guarantees employment to qualified graduates

www.patts.edu.ph
925-8823
925-8824

Courses Offered:
BS Aeronautical Engineering
BS Industrial Engineering
BS Air Transportation
BS Aircraft Maintenance Technology
BS Aviation Technology
BS Tourism Management
BS Hotel & Restaurant Management
BS Airline Business Administration
Aircraft Technician Course - 2 yr course

A Lopez Group Company

First Gen
The Energy to Date
The Power to Care

The grass is greener on our side.

An everyday scene at our 132-MW Pantabangan-Masiway Hydroelectric plant in Nueva Ecija.

At First Gen, we make use of our country's rich resource of clean and green energy.

As the country's leading electricity generating company, our plants use indigenous fuel resources like geothermal, natural gas and hydroelectric energy. Our aim is to meet the Filipinos' growing demand for power and help the country achieve energy self-sufficiency with the smallest carbon footprint possible.

Assistant Editor Tony Benjamin

Across the NATION

# Board reviews Hacienda Luisita toll

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—The Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) has started a "legal review" on the right of the Hacienda Luisita Inc. (HLI) to collect toll on a private road that the company built and linked to the Luisita interchange of the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEx) in Tarlac City, an official of the agency said.

The review would serve as basis of a TRB decision to allow or stop HLI from collecting a "service fee" of P20 from SCTEx users, TRB spokesperson Julius Corpuz said by telephone on Sunday.

The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) on Friday said the TRB should "muster the guts to stop the President's relatives' arbitrary and illegal acts [which are] tantamount to extortion and corruption."

President Aquino has no share in the HLI, according to a financial document furnished by HLI counsel Antonio Lipio. HLI is 70 percent owned by the Tarlac Development Corp., a company run by the Cojuangco clan. Mr. Aquino's late mother, Corazon Cojuangco Aquino, was a member of the clan.

At least 30 percent of HLI, in the form of shares of stock, is held by farm workers in the 6,000-hectare sugar estate straddling Tarlac City and the towns of Concepcion and La Paz in Tarlac.

Corpuz said the TRB has verified that the Barangay San Miguel access road is "privately owned and not part of the expressway."

One of HLI's owners, Jose "Peping" Cojuangco Jr., several dual river at motorists opposed paying P20 for passing through the 7.3-km road starting March 17. Cojuangco said the HLI built the 8.3km San Miguel road and extended it by another 2.5 km in 2006.

On April 3, 2006, letter by his elder brother HLI president Pedro Cojuangco to Narciso Abaya, then president of Development Authority (BCDA), communicated to Bristol that road to link what he called the Luisita Park-way (now the Luisita Industrial Park) is an interchange of the SCTEx.

BCDA, owner of the 94-km SCTEx, reported spending P34.116 billion on the project, which was funded by loans from the Japanese government (70 percent) and a counterpart fund from the Philippine government (21 percent). BCDA bought 46 ha from HLI for right-of-way of the SCTEx and the Luisita interchange.

Cojuangco said HLI is using the money collected from motorists to maintain and repair the road. He said at least 4,500 vehicles pass through the road every day.

When asked, Corpuz said the TRB has jurisdiction over the San Miguel access road, but declined to elaborate, however.

"The matter [is] now being studied and the TRB board will meet next week to come up with an appropriate position," he said.

BCDA president Amel Cusmeiro said the San Miguel access road is "for public use."

The BCDA, Cusmeiro said, intended an interchange on Hacienda Luisita to "connect the Luisita Industrial Park with [Tarlac and Subic economic zones." Dimaline Oreque, Inquirer Central Luzon

A SIGNAGE is displayed along a road inside the Hacienda Luisita announcing the collection of a service fee for the road's upkeep and maintenance. The road links Macarthur Highway in the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway in Tarlac City. RAFFY LERMA/INQUIRER

## Yellow-clad mourners bury Samar mayor

**Rachel V. Arnaiz and Joey A. Gabieta**
Inquirer Visayas

CALBAYOG CITY, Samar—Yellow ribbons and confetti filled the streets as more than 10,000 people turned out to say their last farewell to Mayor Reynaldo Uy on Saturday after noon.

At least 3,000 people in yellow shirts, mostly from the fish-ing town, joined the funeral march that brought Uy to his final resting place at Saint Ignatius Cemetery, about 2 kilometers away from the city proper.

Banners for Mayor Irong Uy" were printed on their shirts.

### Justice

One of the mourners, Elsie Sanchez, 63, of the inland town of Tagapul-an, said that like many Samarenhos, she wanted justice for Uy and his family.

"He was a very good leader. He took care of us, poor people by providing us projects that benefited us," Sanchez said.

Police have yet to arrest the lone gunman who shot and killed Uy, a stalwart of the Liberal Party (LP) in the province, inside the covered court of Hinabangan town on April 30, despite the P2-million bounty offered by the family.

Supt. Elmar Egloso, information officer of the police regional office, assured Uy's family and their supporters that the police were doing everything to solve the murder.

"We have no breakthrough yet as to con fess surfaced to help us identify the gunmen," Egloso said in an interview over his mobile phone.

"But we assure the family of Mayor Uy that we will not stop until the suspect is arrested," he added.

### Well-loved

The casket bearing Uy's remains was brought from City Hall to the Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral in Calbayog for the 8:30 a.m. Mass and necrological service that lasted almost four hours.

The Mass was officiated by Bishop Isabelo Abarquez, who was ordained by almost 30 priests from the Diocese of Calbayog.

In his homily, Bishop Abarquez condemned the killing of the mayor whom he described as a well-loved doctor and leader.

"He (Uy) was not just someone, but a somebody among his fello ... a somebody among his constituents and a somebody among his colleagues in the House of Representatives. His death is not a defeat but a victory," he said.

An emotionally charged necrological service followed after the Mass.

Among those who spoke were Bigaa City Mayor Lawrence Cruz and Representatives Mel Senen Sarmiento of Samar, Raul Daza of Northern Samar and Teddy Casiño of the party-list group Bayan Muna.

Casiño described Uy as one of the leading figures in Samar who fought against forced disappearances and extrajudicial killings.

### Palparan

Uy, he added, was one of the few courageous leaders who opposed the assignment of former military Gen. Jovito Palparan to Samar.

"I think he would have thought that he would die in violence," Casiño said.

Uy's daughter, Imee Jessica Uy-Delgado, vowed not to stop until justice was given to her family and the people of Samar.

"He (Uy) was not just someone, but a somebody among his constituents and a somebody among his colleagues in the House of Representatives. His death is not a defeat but a victory," he said.

An emotionally charged necrological service followed after the Mass.

Among those who spoke were Bigaa City Mayor Lawrence Cruz and Representatives Mel Senen Sarmiento of Samar, Raul Daza of Northern Samar and Teddy Casiño of the party-list group Bayan Muna.

Casiño described Uy as one of the leading figures in Samar who fought against forced disappearances and extrajudicial killings.

### Palparan

Uy, he added, was one of the few courageous leaders who opposed the assignment of former military Gen. Jovito Palparan to Samar.

"I think he would have thought that he would die in violence," Casiño said.

Uy's daughter, Imee Jessica Uy-Delgado, vowed not to stop until justice was given to her family and the people of Samar.

## Mining firm atones for 'desecrating' mountain

SIOCON, Zamboanga del Norte—Canadian mining firm TVI Resources has finally agreed to take penance for violating the rights of the Subanen people and pay fines the ordered years.

TVI's compensation for its "faults" came nearly 15 years after it started operating here.

"This is one way of penance for desecrating the sacred Mt. Canatan. It's an atonement for our sins," said Joel Pinera, manager of the company's community relations and development office.

At the start of the seven-day "holding," the Subanen's way of atonement for sins, on Tuesday, TVI officials publicly acknowledged the authority and leadership of Timuay Jose "Boy" Amoy.

A meeting with elders had earlier been called. It was hosted by the council of chieftains of the Iverson Rivers.

### Spiritual cleansing

During the meeting, TVI was informed of its sins. Its representatives were made to drink rice wine for spiritual cleansing.

The holding, which featured more rice wine drinking, was three-fold.

"The holding that TVI had endured is called the Gampia ug Bunsu ug Canatan. It is TVI's spiritual cleansing ritual and act of offering reconciliation to the people of Canatanan and our ancestors after the company admitted violating the Subanen customs and traditions, which resulted to damage to our ancestral domain," said Timuay Jerry Lumbis, chief elder of the Dekum ug Pito ka Datuagan.

While the holding aims to cleanse the spiritual aspects of the violations, it could "not absolve the violator of all other responsibilities resulting to commercial or physical damage," Lumbis said.

He said the tribal people were hoping that at the end of the holding on Monday next week, TVI would mend its ways and aspire for a harmonious relationship with them.

### Forgiveness

The holding also encourages the victim to "forgive," Lumbis said.

TVI started operations in Canatan in 1987 and Amoy's group has opposed its operations since.

Amoy had accused TVI of operating without community consent, destruction of their ancestral domain and employing tactics to polarize the Subanens.

Pinera, he said, the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), which is supposed to help protect Subanen customs, traditions and rights, collaborated with TVI by organizing the promising Iverson Council of Elders.

"It was the NCIP which organized the Iverson Council of Elders despite the fact that I vetoed as Timuay of Canatanan," Amoy said.

In July 2007, Amoy filed a complaint against the Philippine government before the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and asked the Dekum to intervene.

In December of that year, the Dekum summoned TVI but was ignored by the company.

The Dekum eventually imposed a penalty of 12 "balas" (the roll of cotton cloth, the monetary value of which is traditionally used as a measure in imposing penalties) per cubic unit of land within the ancestral domain destroyed or impacted by TVI's mining activity. A balas is currently pegged at P1,200.

### Penalty

The unit of measurement to be used is Amoy's "dupa" or the length from the tip of the middle finger of his stretched arms.

It was not until August 2009 that TVI formally recognized Amoy's authority and agreed to the ritual, including the payment of balas.

The payment will be formalized two years after the Dekum made the decision against TVI. Elio Diaz, Inquirer Mindanao

# 9 Army soldiers face charges for militant's death

By Mimia M. Barrameda
Inquirer Southern Luzon

PILI, Camarines Sur—Nine army soldiers, including two officers, are facing murder charges for the death of a member of Bayan Muna party-list in Bicol in February.

Maj. Angelo Guzman, spokesperson of the 9th Infantry Division (ID), confirmed in statement here Saturday that a court of murder has been filed by the police at the Camarines Sur Prosecutor's Office on Friday against Maj. Danilo Ambe, Lt. Mishel Bonilla, S/Sgt. Dexgracias Samsuceo, PFC Edgardo Taka, Pfc Zander Mia, Pfc Sergie Tubig, Pfc Carmine Bobanpil Jr., Private Alvin De Silla, Pfc Jessie Mirasol and several John Does for the death of Rodel Fajardo on July 15.

## Discrepancies

The case was filed after a special police investigation conducted that contrary to the claim of the Army unit led by Ambe, Fajardo did not die in an encounter between soldiers and communist rebels, but was abducted and killed.

Benjamin Ilevil spokesperson Vince Cardillo said on Sunday that his group and the local members of Bayan Muna initiated the filing of the complaint against the soldiers on behalf of Fajardo who was reportedly abducted from his residence in Mallapot, Albay, and killed in a "labo" encounter in Baao, Camarines Sur.

The case was filed immediately after reports and investigations regarding the killing of Fajardo conducted by a special task force of the Philippine National Police unearthed discrepancies in the pieces of evidence presented by the Army.

Senator Sept. Edwin Sherwin, regional director of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group in Bicol, said they have gathered enough evidence to set the wheels of justice moving.

Cardillo said the Sobi Days" should have been named. He said the immediate superiors and other officers mentioned in the case should also be charged. "They are mere fields of the crime that these midand-lie soldiers," Cardillo said. "These soldiers were just following their superiors' orders."

## Tip of the iceberg

"The killing of Fajardo is just the tip of the iceberg here. There are more (like) him, victims of human rights violation in Bicol perpetrated by the soldiers," Cardillo added.

Guzman said the military welcomed the development on the Fajardo case as it would give their soldiers the chance to defend themselves properly in court.

Although he admitted that while the 9th ID inspector general, Col. Gilma de Lima, had also noted discrepancies in the statements provided by the soldiers involved in the case, the Army remains firm in its claim that Fajardo died in a legitimate encounter in Baao.

# North Cotabato dads OK Bt-eggplant testing

KIDAPAWAN CITY—The field testing of genetically modified eggplants at a state university in Kabacan town in North Cotabato could go full blast, the provincial board said in a resolution passed on Thursday.

The resolution came after months of deliberation by board members on whether or not the field testing at the University of Southern Mindanao (USM) violated the provincial environment code.

Although it did not ban the testing of genetically modified organisms, the provincial environmental code stressed the "precautionary principle" in genetic engineering.

Vicente Ibenjin, chair of the board's agriculture committee, said during the final deliberations that the approval by the Kabacan council on the field testing should be respected by the provincial board.

"Such declaration should be upheld and respected, considering that the said council, public is the local community and the principal object of the Prior Informed Consent Doctrine," Ibenjin said.

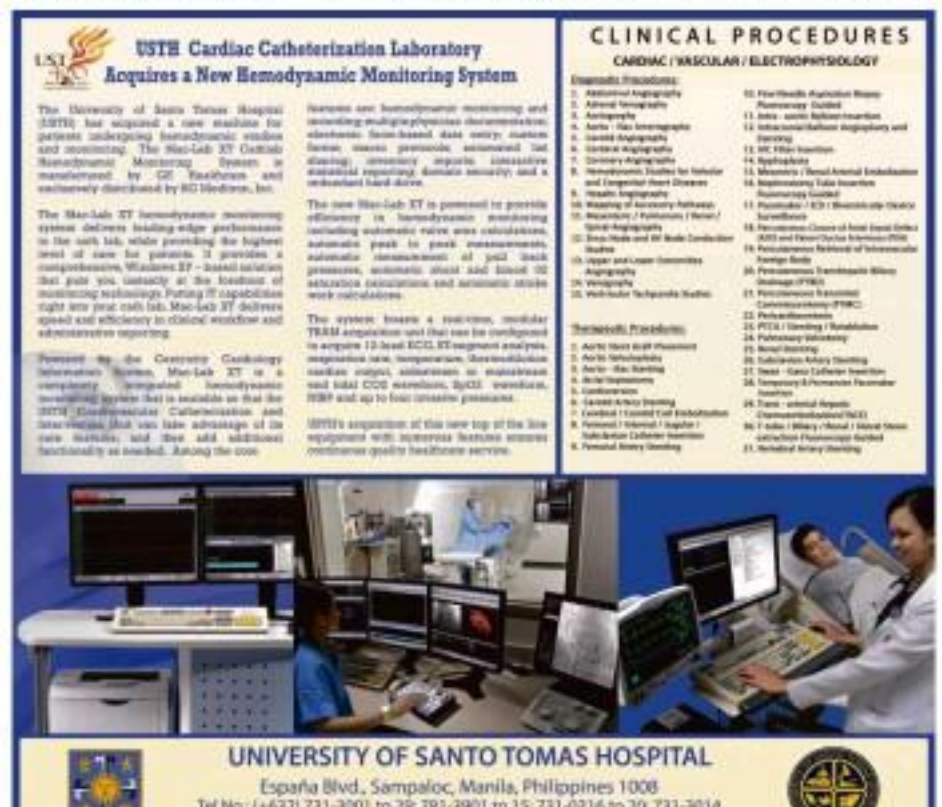
He added that the proponents of the project have complied with "all the minimum basic requirements for the field testing set by the Bureau of Plants and Industry (BPI)," he said.

North Cotabato Vice Gov. Gregorio Ipong said the board could not possibly halt the testing of Bt eggplant.

"It now lies on the proponents whether or not to push through with the field testing because the stoppage of the duly approved field testing in USM Kabacan is not within the powers of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP)," Ipong said in his reasoning statement.

But Ibenjin said the board still required the proponent to "strictly adhere to the biosafety protocol issued by the BPI" even if it approved the project.

"The proponents were also required to submit all detailed planting plan, enumerate all chemicals of all kinds, schedule of pesticides application and monitoring activities to the SP," he said. Earlo Aparicio, Inquirer Mindanao



# Compromise bill on reproductive health seen

By TJ Burgonio

THE REPRODUCTIVE health (RH) bill may yet become the #1 of a history of animosity between the Catholic Church and the government that senators pushed would end in compromise.

The two sides had clashed before over a bill proposing compulsory education in public schools in 1958, and a bill proposing compulsory reading of Jose Rizal's "Noli Me Tangere" and "El Filibusterismo" in all books in 1956, Sen. Joker Arroyo said.

"This is as controversial as the compulsory reading of the 'Noli' and 'Fili,' and the compulsory religious instruction," Arroyo said in reporters.

In a radio-television program, he said, "It could (shake) the administration, especially since the President has taken a stand. He stand in effect is the same as the stand of President Quezon."

Then President Manuel L. Quezon vetoed the bill on compulsory religious instruction after it was passed by the legislature, citing the separation of the Church and State. This enraged the Church, Arroyo said.

The Church also opposed the compulsory reading of Rizal's two novels because of passages critical of the Church. It later relented when lawmakers agreed to establish the section for elementary and high school students, he said.

### Compromise bill

But after all the furor wrought by the media and debate in Congress, Arroyo predicted that a "compromise bill" on reproductive health would emerge in the House of Representatives and Senate.

"Of course, it's still being hotly debated. But when it reaches the period of amendments, there will be a compromise as had happened in the 'Noli' and 'Fili' issue," he said. "It's very hard to take a position if anyone gets. But I can see that there will be a compromise here."

The House has begun plenary debates on its version of the RH bill, while the Senate has yet to tackle it on the floor.

Sen. Ralph Recto, who wants to do away with defense provisions such as incentives to condone serious personal estates, said he was open to a "compromise bill."

"There must be a way forward," said Recto, who joined Senators Miriam Defensor Santiago, Pia Cayetano, Panfilo Lacson and Edgardo Angara in backing the bill.

Recto said in an interview he agreed in principle with the measure's objective to improve women's reproductive health, and prevent deaths arising from pregnancy.

### Substitute bill

Senator President Juan Ponce Enrile, who has declared his opposition to the bill along with Majority Leader Vicente Sotto III and Pro Tempore Jinggoy Estrada, also broached the idea of a "substitute bill."

"We can amend the measure. We can produce a substitute bill," Enrile said on radio.

Arroyo said he expected the RH, Aquino's pantymates in the Senate—Recto, Franklin Drilon, Pimentel, Pangilinan and Escudero III—would vote for the bill.

Drilon, however, said he had not made up his mind.

"I'll be listening to the debates. I have not made up my mind. I will study it very well. I don't know what will come to the Senate," he said in an interview. "It's a major bill. How the Senate will vote is difficult to predict at this point."

Pangilinan earlier said: "I will support the bill that will ensure that married couples are given the information they need to make an informed decision about parenthood and that they be empowered to achieve it with the needed government support. I am against any form of abortion."

### House debates

In the House, Majority Leader Neptali Gonzales III predicted that the lengthy plenary debates would unfold after the key probable proponents have questioned the RH bill's author, Minority Leader Edcel Lagman.

"Once the key players, Bibit Garcia, Bello Golez, Anthony Golez and Raul Daza, have completed their (un)pellation, then I belatedly and timely question to ask," he said in an interview. "All senators will be covered."

Even my favorite! Via Mr.Jesus Bolinaster Jr. would soon sit down with the sponsor of the measure, and the 38 in opposition "to come out with the rules of engagement" in the floor debates, Gonzales said.

Even my favorite! Via Mr.Jesus makers have so far completed their interpellations of Lagman, the debate won't be finished when Congress adjourns sine die on June 3. This will resume when Congress opens its second regular session in July, he said.

"Hopefully before the year ends, we will be able to vote on it," he said.

# P-Noy to bring up intrusion with China's defense chief

From page A1

these incidents," the President said. "The endpoint of which is we hope this kind of incidents will be minimized or there could be conflict."

### Harassment

Mr. Aquino was referring to the incident in March when two Chinese vessels allegedly harassed a Philippine government exploration ship Bonit Bank, prompting Manila to send planes and Coast Guard ships to the area.

The President said the Philippine military also was unable to positively identify the two foreign fighter jets sighted last week in the vicinity of the disputed Kalayaan Islands in the Spratlys. The two fighter jets were earlier reported to belong to China.

He said the aircraft that spotted the fighter jets—two OV 10s—were on weather patrol and flying at a lower altitude. The two jets, he said, were "not at a justified course here at a right angle," and flew higher and faster.

But Mr. Aquino declared that the Philippine military had monitored "many and different sightings and various other vessels" to the disputed areas, including a submarine.

He said the military was unable to identify the jet fighters because it were under before a military plane came closer.

The Spratlys, a reportedly oil-rich chain of tiny islands and reefs located off Palawan, is claimed wholly or in part by the Philippines, China, Malaysia, Brunei, Vietnam and Taiwan.

### Protest over claim

In March, the Philippines lodged a protest in the United Nations over China's claim to the Spratlys and adjacent South China Sea waters, particularly the "nine-dotted line," a map attached to a 2009 Chinese letter that delineated China's claims.

In the face of repeated intrusions by the two jets, Sen. Joker Arroyo said the country could only rely on its military if a row with China over Spratlys erupted.

Despite a Visiting Forces Agreement with Washington, Arroyo said the United States had not issued any word of caution to China over the disputed islands.

"The US will not go to war with us," he said on radio. "What we get to tell is the utterance of the US ambassador, but the words of the ambassador amount to nothing."

"We have to defend ourselves and not to think that America will defend us," Arroyo added.

### Weak military

Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, for his part, said the witnesses by the fighter jets only "looked like" those. The pilots from the Philippines was weak militarily.

"They're doing that to us because we are a weak country. In international law, the law of force prevails. Diplomacy works where there are no [actual] interests," Enrile said on radio.

The long-term solution, he said, was to modernize the AFP and boost the fleet of Air Force.

"If they intrude into our airspace, hit them with a fighter. But we should not be proud if we don't have the capability," he said. With a report from TJ Burgonio

# Bishop steps up attack on RH bill

From page A1

national government. Let them be an economically supportive, not a pass, and girls occupied Mindanao," Cruz said.

Mr. Aquino, who has a passion for playing musicals, parodied Pericles' speech on, has been quoted going out on dates following his breakup with the popular 30-year-old Councilor Shalani Soledad.

The President has a new apple of the eye, a teacher named Sunny Cabas, whom he took out to watch the Making Samson concert last week.

### All about competence

Cruz, 74, earlier slammed unabated "farming," an illegal numbers racket, that was allegedly condoned by high-level Aquino officials. He first yesterday against the bachelor President was his struggle so far.

**The retired archbishop stressed that the national economy either to level of productivity or numbers of misery, depended much on the kind of leadership the country has.**

"It is not really dependent entirely on the number of people there are in a given economy," Cruz said.

He continued, "It is competence or incapable, dull or intelligent leadership that makes the difference in the matter of a country enjoying affluence or suffering from destitution."

Mr. Aquino had been criticized by Church leaders for his support for the RH bill, which seeks to promote sex education from Grade 5 and provide contraceptive pills to parents who wish to plan families.

**The President has said that he was prepared to face Church excommunication for supporting the measure, but he wanted that**

# Pricey house arrest for ex-IMF chief

From page A1

Larry Fossil (IMF) has been living in the lower Manhattan street-type since his release on Friday from Rikers Island prison on $1-million cash bail.

The 62-year-old Strauss-Kahn has been accused of trying to rape a 32-year-old housekeeper in his $3,000-a-night hotel suite last weekend but has denied the allegations. He is scheduled for arraignment on Aug. 6.

He was initially set for a tony apartment complex on the Upper East Side, but tenants in the building complained about the throng of police and media gathered outside.

So instead, Strauss-Kahn was escorted to the 21-story Empire Building within the New York Police Department's ring of steel, a network of private and police cameras.

He is guarded by Steve Friedberg, the same security firm that kept disgraced former Bernard Madoff under surveillance in his own penthouse.

### $200K a month

Paws with the severe restrictions, Strauss-Kahn's family wealth has afforded him one of the cushiest bail agreements possible. But it won't come cheap.

The suit in recent the former IMF chief

will be $200,000 a month—and he must foot the bill for armed surveillance, the installation of cameras and a special bracelet shackled to his ankle that will set off an alarm if he travels one lot.

In comparison, it costs the city about $6,500 a month to house an inmate at a facility like Rikers Island, where he had been held nearly a week.

Right now, he is not allowed out at all, but after he is moved to a more permanent location he may leave for the court, doctor visits and weekly religious services.

Prosecutors must be notified at least six hours before he goes anywhere. He can't be out between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

But he is free to leave Strauss-Kahn may have visitors up to four at a time to address to members of his family.

### Indictment

Strauss-Kahn was ordered by a grand jury last week on charges including criminal sexual assault and attempted rape. If convicted of the most serious charge, the 32-year-old accuser could get life in prison.

The accused was held at the jail initially because a judge ruled with prosecutors who believed he was a substantial flight risk, given his wealth and international status.

Prosecutors also were worried that if Strauss-Kahn was simply released he would flee to France, which has extradition laws that favor its residents.

His lawyers initially requested his release on $1-million bail, but they revised the plan later in the week to add stricter house arrest requirements.

State Supreme Court Justice Michael J. Obus signed off on the plan and ordered Strauss-Kahn's release from Rikers Island on Friday.

### Steve Friedberg

A spokesperson for Steve Friedberg had no comment on the security firm's latest client.

The company has a history of high-stakes, high-wealth clients: It assisted Mubender and Sandra Sabharwal, a rich Long Island couple convicted of murdering their domestic servant—a woman they brought home to work as a housekeeper after they bought her in Indonesia by keeping their limited documents while leaving them perform forced labor.

Over the course of the couple's home detention, the firm was chastised by a judge for allowing Mubender Sabharwal to step out at business meetings in Manhattan until 1 a.m.

And those clients included Bernard Madoff, who was under house arrest for over a year before he began serving a 150-year prison term in 2009 for swindling investors of billions.

He is now closely pushed on his website on its involvement with Madoff, Steve Friedberg said round-the-clock monitoring was the key to success. Federal and high-ranking New York City officers who kept tabs on everything, from deliveries in and out of the building to recording his every move.

### 3 guards needed

Security experts say it would take at least three experienced guards to do the job well

on Strauss-Kahn's case—two working at all times and one on reserve.

"You can't go to sleep. You need fresh guys all the time," said Jerry Hard, a longtime security consultant of the New York Police Department, who now does security work and serves as a private detective. "You can't let the guy out of your sight."

Nick Casale, who guarded Madoff (until he said the prisoner's wealth must be taken into account.

"For the average person, a $1-million cash bail is astronomical. But you have to look at how this would impact his wealth. Is it substantial, or is it trivial?"

Lawyers said in court that Strauss-Kahn was worth about $1 million, but that his wife, Anne Sinclair, comes from a wealthy, unbelievably wealthy. She helped secure the $1-million bond that the judge added to the bail agreement.

### Madoff case

Experts say such bail agreements are becoming increasingly common for well-heeled defendants—the more high-profile being Madoff, who was under private guard and had cameras trained on him 24 hours a day.

Strauss-Kahn's lawyers cited the case—in which Madoff pressed a $10-million bail—as a reason to release the prisoner.

Some other white-collar bail agreements make Madoff's look puny.

In 2008, David Bocaka, formerly the top supplier of body armor to the US military, was released on $400-million bond under a house arrest. He was called for electronic monitoring and an armed guard in his apartment.

His bail was revoked in 2010 when a federal judge ruled that he had schemed to hide assets from the court.

### Caste system

Raj Rajaratnam, a one-time billionaire hedge fund founder convicted of insider trading, is currently free on $100-million bail, but he is under house arrest at his Manhattan home while he awaits sentencing on July 29.

It's just a fact, experts say, that money can buy you a sweeter deal while you wait for your criminal case to go to trial.

"So now what we're saying is that people of status and class and power can perpetrate these type of crimes, hire an expensive defense team, and avoid the institutional stuff to satisfy the court to secure their freedom," said Nick Casale, a security expert who guarded Madoff. "Are we going to this caste system of defendants?"

But freedom from jail meant dealing with the press—and lawyers in Strauss-Kahn's case said the international media frenzy over his case changed the house arrest plans.

Strauss-Kahn decided not to move in the Upper East Side luxury building "out of respect for the residents" who objected to the international media converging on the complex.

AP

# PFF upholds Negros' 3-1 Suzuki U-23 win

By Cedrik F. Tupas

CEBU CITY — The spirit of fair play, the Philippine Football Federation backtracked on its earlier decision and restored Cotta Negros Occidental's 3-1 victory over host Iloilo City in the finals of the PFF Suzuki Under-23 Invitational Cup.

The decision was made late Saturday night on the eve of the second leg at the Panaad Stadium after another meeting among the officials of both teams, the PFF and Suzuki representatives.

The PFF competitions committee had earlier upheld Iloilo's protest that stemmed from the holding of extra time in the first leg after regulation play ended at 1-1.

Sources said Iloilo withdrew its protest upon the presiding of PFF president Mariano "Nonong" Araneta, who is a former head of the Iloilo Football Association.

"Upon careful consideration and in the spirit of fair play, it was agreed [by all] parties that the score should be 3-1," a statement from the federation signed by general secretary Chito Manuel said.

"It was a collective decision," Manuel said. "It's for the good of football. But it should never happen again."

Before the decision was made, Negros assistant coach Ramon Jones Saturday night said their team was ready to play the second leg last night at the Panaad Stadium even if the score was pegged at 1-1.

The red cards slapped on Iloilo keeper Wilson Mosura and defender Shanny Ilagnajan were also retained, forcing them to miss the second leg.

Both players are available a subject of two previous rosters in the tournament for Iloilo. ng players not in their initial 18-man roster up, and although the players in question were no longer allowed to play in the knockout stage, the Ilonggos' victories were not forfeited.

# *Shackleford stuns favored Animal Kingdom*

BALTIMORE — Shackleford won the Preakness on Saturday holding off a late charge from Animal Kingdom to retrace a 12-1 underdog.

The victory was redemption for Shackleford, who finished fourth behind Animal Kingdom after leading for much of that race.

It also meant there would be no Triple Crown try at the Belmont Stakes in three weeks.

Shackleford battled for the lead from the outset. He vaulted Flashpoint in the early going, then took the lead and wouldn't relinquish it.

Ridden by Jesse Lopez, Cautious and trained by Dale Romans, Shackleford won by three-quarters of a length in 1:56.22.

Animal Kingdom was the morning-line 2-1 favorite at Pimlico and was bidding to become the first Triple Crown winner since Affirmed in 1978. AP

# North All-Stars trip South anew

By Jose Mariano

MORUNTS — Blatz Pingris shone brightest among the PBA collection of superstars last night, rumbling in an underpaced rush to lift the North's stars to a pulsating 133-129 win over the South in the All-Star game at the Ronnoy Convention Center here.

LA Tenorio squeezed into the game and found Pingris alone for the winning shot with 11.6 seconds left that completed a historic back-to-back victory for the North since the North-versus-South format was institutionalized in 1992.

Pingris banged in 28 of his 34 points in the first half before capping his big night with the decisive reverse layup.

Sarah names Willie Miller and Tenorio awarded James Yap as the most play, forcing the league's reigning MVP to pass off to Jimmy Alapag in the potential overtime-winning three pointer.

But Rainlet Jr. Granpa shared his Talk N Text teammate from way out and slinging missed, Miller grabbed the rebound and was fouled to pave the way for the tournament hatbirth.

Jonathan Hutchinson and Pingris failed to connect from nine earlier and the 129-129 tie stood until Pingris, who was later named the game's MVP, shattered the deadlock.

Meanwhile, the group of active players headed by reigning three point king Mark Bringas of Pinoycafe, Cimebest's Ronald Tubid and slugging wizard the Legends Montreal, 42-31, beating the core of former league superstars Allan Caidic, Alvin Patrimonio and Asi Agustin.

NORTH team's Hanna Conte (right) goes for a layup against the South squad's Danny Seigle (left) and Jon De Vanna.

ENSAYO GYM EQUIPMENT
Tel #: 392-5868 / 715-3920 / 713-8700
www.ensayofitnet.com | ensayofitnet@yahoo.com
CARDIO EQUIPMENT
ATHLETIC TRAINING GEARS
STRENGTH TRAINING EQUIPMENT
SUPPLEMENTS

## De La Hoya undergoing treatment for substance abuse in California

(SSCAD) "THE Golden One" De La Hoya is undergoing rehabilitation for "substance abuse" in a California facility.

According to sports and entertainment website, TMZ, he did so voluntarily.

TMZ which first reported the La Hoya's problems, quoted the owner of Golden Boy Promotions as saying he will emerge "a stronger, healthier person."

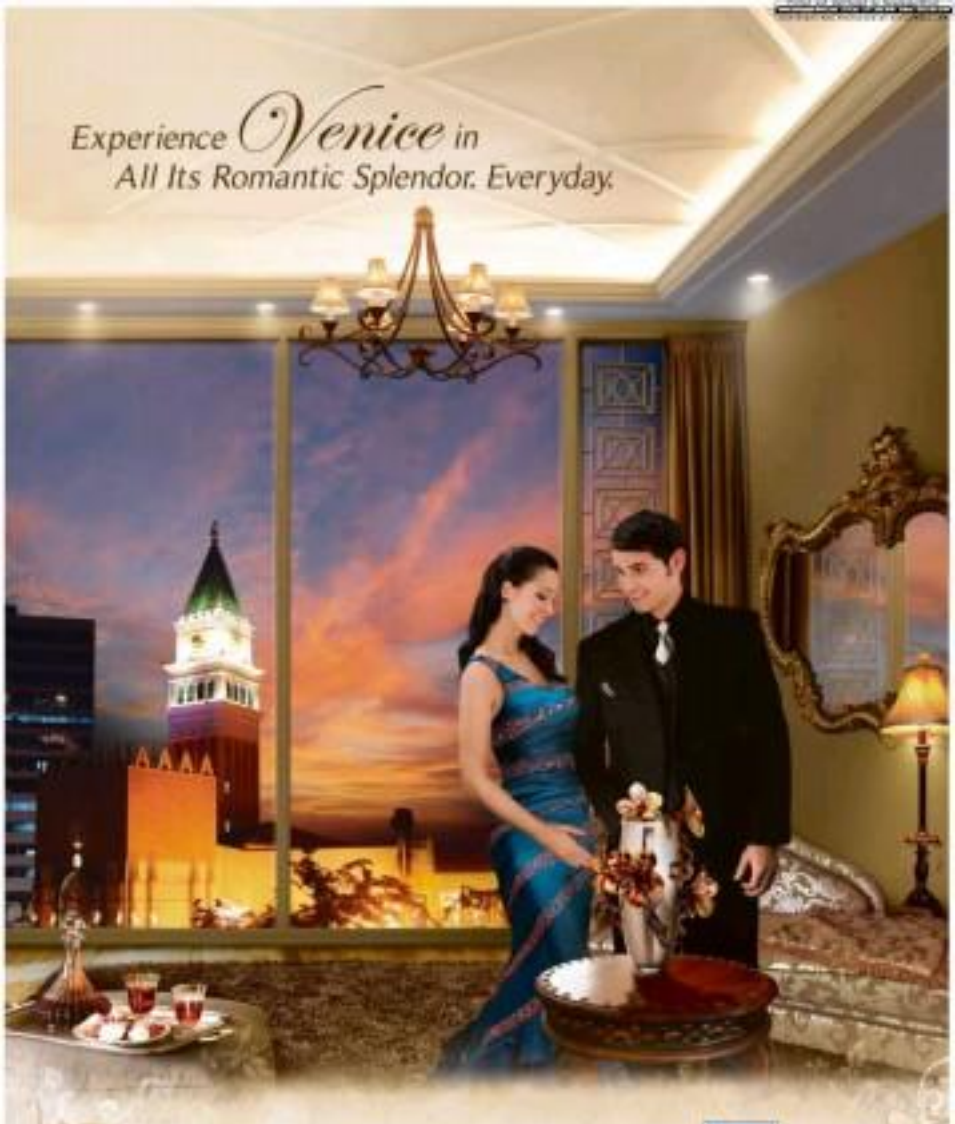
"Of my kind, in that right" World Boxing Council president Don Jose Sulaiman said in an interview with the Inquirer. "But what caused undoubtedly is that he took the decision to go into rehabilitation. Hope he can control that."

"When doing personal evaluation of myself, I recognize that there are certain issues that I need to work on. I do not want to be one of those people afraid to address those issues," De La Hoya said in a statement. — Ronnie Nathaniel

United Auctioneers Inc.
MAY 25, 26 & 27, 2011
(WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY)
INSPECTION & REGISTRATION OPENS
INSPECTION DATES
MAY 22, 23 & 24, 2011

AIA Asia International Auctioneers, Inc.
EQUIPMENT ONLY
SUMMER DEALS!
MAY 22-27, 2011
PUBLIC AUCTION SCHEDULE
JUNE 23, 24 & 25, 2011
JUNE 20, 21 & 22
(02) 858-8585
(+63-47) 252-3333
(+63-47) 252-6840
BD Leasing

Experience *Venice* in
All Its Romantic Splendor. Everyday.



At The Venice at McKinley Hill, indulge in romantic moments again and again and again. Wake your eyes on the very best of Italy's Venice at home. Look out your window and fall in love with the exquisite view of your very own St. Mark's Tower. Make memories for two right on your doorstep, and let a gondola take you down the Grand Canal and under the Rialto Bridge. Afterwards, discover the charms of The Venice Piazza. From alfresco dining at The Boardwalk to sightseeing at Doge's Palace to shopping at the retail center—there's nothing you can't do or enjoy.

Let every experience come alive with a Venetian vibe. Only at The Venice.

Be part of the only Venetian-style setting in the heart of the metro:

- An upscale community inspired by Italy's famous romantic city, Venice
- Finer abodes, each of the seven towers resembles a "Dieci," the gondola's ornamental prow
- Overlooking the metro's first-ever, man-made Grand Canal, offering authentic gondola rides (availability to be announced later)
- One- to three-bedroom suites with fabulous
- A waterfront alley deck
- 9,000 sqm. access to The Venice Piazza, the Boardwalk retail area and the Venetian-inspired Rialto Bridge, St. Mark's Tower and Doge's Palace
- Nine restaurants, international schools and a colonnade
- Commercial developers Ayala Land, Inc. and the Manuel Villar-led Vista Land & Lifescapes Inc. are the developers behind McKinley Hill

NOW OPEN AT THE VENICE PIAZZA:

Blackbeard's Revenge • Cabrini Pizza • Domino's • Gelato Café • Figaro • Fruit Shoppe Lounge • Hanny's Bar • KFC • Krust • Little Italy • McDonald's • Mr. Pho and Mr. Bo • Mr. Kim • Mr. Pizza • Nichols • Red Crab Seafood House • Rizzo Ristorante • SOS Corn Shoppe • Sushiro Ramen Bistro • Tea Garden • Tower Records Cafe Presidential Suite • The Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf • Yellow Cab • Yo Gelato

THE VENICE

LUXURY RESIDENCES
AT MCKINLEY HILL

Visit us at the McKinley Hill Information Center, Upper McKinley Road corner Fairplace Way, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila.

Tels: 840-0602 • 815-1888

Another Outstanding Development of

MEGAWORLD CORPORATION
www.themckinleyhill.com

Aplus METRO

Editor Abelardo S. Vitug

**DID YOU KNOW**

There are 200 foreign detainees in the country as of February this year, according to the Bureau of Justice Assistance and Penology. Of the total, around 100 persons or 142 foreigners are detained in the National Capital Region. **Zaldy Dandoy, Inquirer Research**

# Fake MMDA enforcers hijack truck

By Nancy C. Carvajal

AFTER impersonating policemen, robbers are now posing as traffic enforcers of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

Four armed men dressed as MMDA traffic enforcers hijacked a truck carrying P1 million worth of footwear on the Commonwealth of the Philippines overpass in Diliman, Quezon City, on Friday night.

SPO2 Rodrigo Barsaranda of the Quezon City Police District said the truck was owned by Rexpac Inc.

The driver of the truck, Geraldo Basaraba, said that around 8 p.m., he was driving on C. P. Garcia Road on his way to deliver his cargo in Pasay City when four MMDA traffic enforcers—two of them on motorcycles—flagged him down.

He added that as soon as he pulled over, two of the enforcers who were carrying guns got into the truck, pushed him aside while one of them took over the wheel of the 10-wheel Isuzu Giga (NAH 921).

According to Basaraba, he was blindfolded and placed inside the truck by the robbers who drove the truck around for what seemed to him like several hours.

At one point, he said the truck stopped and he heard the robbers emptying it of its cargo.

He added that the truck started moving again and after some time, it stopped and the robbers let him out.

Basaraba said he later discovered that he was on Muchelbut Highway in Meycauayan, Bulacan.

The police said the driver was able to provide them with the plate number of the robbers' motorcycle and that they were trying to determine who its owners were.

**ILLEGAL JEEPNEY TERMINAL**
Angela, 23, of Mandaluyong City, writes: "Public utility jeepneys lined up on Kalentong Street in Mandaluyong City while waiting for passengers create heavy traffic in the area."

# Task group apprehends 120 speedsters in 6 days

By Jayson T. Gamil

AN INTERAGENCY team running after reckless roughly violating the 60-kph speed limit on Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City has apprehended more than 100 drivers in just six days.

"We started on Monday morning and by Saturday morning we have netted 120 violators on Commonwealth Avenue and Regalado Avenue, mostly buses and some trucks," said Alberto Suansing, team leader of the Road Safety Special Violator (RSSV) task group, in a media forum yesterday.

The task group is composed of operatives from the Land Transportation Office, Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board, Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) and the Philippine National Police Highway Patrol Group.

It was created following the death of veteran journalist and University of the Philippines professor Lourdes "Chit" Ford in Motherhood on May 12.

Ambulant man killed in Commonwealth Avenue after the taxi she was riding in was hit by a passenger bus.

The bus driver, Daniel Espinosa, gave himself up to authorities on Thursday night in Tarlac City after days in hiding.

RASV operatives chase speeding vehicles on motorcycles and confiscate the license of their drivers as well as the license plate of their vehicles.

"We change our hours of operation but what is notable is that we catch someone every hour," Suansing, a DOTC consultant, said.

He added, however, that there had been "marked changes" on the so-called "killer highway" since RSSV came on the scene. "The buses have started 'speeding.' They only try their luck to other areas, like on the way to Regalado Avenue," he said.

The group is set to expand its area of operations this week, Suansing told reporters. "We will now monitor other roads like Quezon Avenue since bus drivers tend to race each other there. We may also include the stretch on Edsa from Ortigas to Boni Serrano."

At the same time, Suansing recommended that the 60-kph speed limit be applied on all Metro Manila roads.

He also called on local governments to strictly enforce traffic laws to instill discipline in drivers. "Stop-driver-conductor" traffic rules are never suggestions. They think violators can be talked over because there are enforcers that do make a business out of it," he pointed out.

Aside from stepping up apprehensions and law enforcement, Suansing said the DOTC was looking into disarming bus routers and regulating the work hours of bus drivers, some of whom work from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily.

# Illegal Makati cockpit shut down

By Mike L. Morales

THE MAKATI City government has shut down a cockpit on Bluecards Street in Barangay Singkamas after authorities found out it was operating without a license.

In a statement, Makati Mayor Jejomar Erwin Binay Jr. said he issued the closure order upon the recommendation of the city's business permits office which discovered that the venue, owned and managed by WTI Sports and Amusement Corp., did not have a permit from city hall.

Binay also directed city officials to investigate how the company was able to operate even without a license—the most basic requirement in any business in the city.

In addition, he said he learned that multiple complaints did not have worthwhile grounds as well. City Hall employees also discovered that a commercial hosting a portion of the building area operating without a license.

Inspectors served the closure notice on May 9, seven days after they conducted a check of the establishment, the mayor added.

## Citizen's call 4467

### Triple whammy

*Motor po mind nagsabi ang driver pero di nakinig. Sabi ko sa kanya, 'Dahan-dahan lang, kuya, kasi may mga bata dito.' Pero ang sagot niya, 'Sige lang, kuya, kaya ko 'yan.' Ayun, nabundol ang mga bata.*

Zoilo Abad, Sexion City, told motorists on Samaniego General Hospital, "I was crossing home-bound na ang aking dalawang anak nang biglang may isang humarurot. Magang-maga ang mga mukha ng mga bata nang dalhin sa ospital."

Maging ang mga driver ng mga sangkot sa aksidente ay hindi rin nakaligtas sa kapahamakan. Ayon sa mga saksi, nawalan ng preno ang isang sasakyan habang binabaybay nito ang Quirino Highway.

Nang mawalan ng kontrol ang driver sa kanyang sasakyan, nabangga nito ang isang motorsiklo na minamaneho ng isang 19-anyos na lalaki. Dahil sa lakas ng impact, tumilapon ang motorsiklo at tumama sa isang poste ng kuryente.

Ang lalaki ay nagtamo ng matinding pinsala sa ulo at agad na isinugod sa Quirino Memorial Medical Center sa Project 4, Quezon City.

Ang driver naman ay nagtamo ng mga sugat sa katawan at kasalukuyang nagpapagaling sa Philippine General Hospital.

### Driver hogs road

*From Cuenca to Cubao, we had to follow this idiotic policeman driving a jeep with plate number UU 602 because he was power tripping, cruising in the middle of two lanes.*

Pepe, Mandaluyong City

### Maynilad plugs leaks in Manila, Quezon City

*This is in reference to the article published last May 9 titled "Leaking water pipes in Manila, QC" regarding leaks on E. de Rocha near Sun to 20 feet in Manila and the House of Representatives, heads of diplomatic missions and international organizations and donors, representatives from the private agri-fishery sector and other concerned government agencies.*

Gawad Saka is an annual contest conducted nationwide by DA—in partnership with LGUs, academe and the private sector—to recognize the continuing efforts and contribution in nation-building of farmers and fisherfolk, livestock raisers, and farmers' and fisherfolk's groups and organizations.

The annual contest, which started in 1972, to date features 22 individual and group categories.

The search starts at the municipal level, where model farmers, fishers and farmers'/fisherfolk groups are endorsed by their respective mayors to the provincial level competition.

The provincial winners will then compete to represent their respective region. The regional contenders will finally vie for the national awards.

## P-Noy, Sec 'Procy' honor *Gawad Saka* Awardees

President Benigno S. Aquino III and Agriculture Secretary Proceso J. Alcala lead the nation in honoring the country's outstanding farmers and fisherfolk on Gawad Saka awardees of 2009-2010, in simple ceremonies, May 23, 2011, at Rizal Hall, Malacañan Palace, Manila.

The awardees are composed of 13 individuals and nine groups, led by 78-year old Ethen Millare of San Juan, Abra, as the outstanding integrated rice farmer.

For their feat, the 22 winners will receive a total of P1.2 million in cash awards and agri-fishery project grants, as well as respective Presidential Citation and Gawad Saka trophy.

The awarding ceremony highlights the annual Farmers' and Fisherfolk's Month' celebration, spearheaded nationwide by the Department of Agriculture, with the theme: 'Sa Agri-Pinoy, Asenso'y Tatak-Isang.'

"Ate Ethen Millare, who has been farming for 60 years, integrates rice farming with vegetable and livestock enterprises, using an innovative and sustainable Palayamanan technology.

From his 1.25-hectare integrated rice farm he earned a gross income of P400,000 in 2010.

For his feat, he will receive P100,000 cash, a Presidential citation and a Gawad Saka trophy from President Aquino and Secretary Procy Alcala.

The other 12 national Gawad Saka individual winners will also receive P100,000 cash while the farmer group winners will get project grants, ranging from P150,000 to P350,000. All, shown at right will receive a Presidential citation and Gawad Saka trophy.

As part of their prize, they will go on a three-day 'Lakbay-Aral' or study tour of model agri-fishery farms and research institutions in Luzon, sponsored by the DA-National Agricultural and Fishery Council (NAFC).

Expected to attend are 550 guests composed of farmers and fisherfolk leaders, local government officials, cabinet members, honorable members of the Senate

### National Gawad Saka Awardees

(Hatungi-tanging Magsasaka at Mangingisda ng 2010)

## Rescue teams eyed

By Nita Cuttaj

OLOOCAN City Mayor Edwin Eclavea has ordered barangay officials to form risk reduction teams in preparation for any disaster that may possibly hit the country.

The mayor addressed his order to Ugu ng mga Barangay punong barangay and councilor Barangay Isa Kawani) stating each barangay must have its own risk reduction team so that it may immediately respond in case of fire, typhoons, earthquakes or any other type of disaster.

"Proper preparation for any disaster ensures that we'll be able to respond efficiently and save lives and properties," the mayor said in a statement yesterday.

According to him, volunteers who will be picked from each barangay will undergo proper emergency response training.

The volunteers will then be affiliated of the city-led Barangay Department of Public Safety and Traffic Management (BDPSTM-Rescue Team).

One of their responsibilities will be to educate the public about disaster preparedness as experts have been invited to teach them to administer first aid before victims of disasters are taken to the nearest hospital for treatment.

The mayor said the Ugu ng mga Barangay has started organizing volunteers.

## MESSAGES

Congratulations to all the recipients of the Gawad Saka 2009-2010. I join the Department of Agriculture in commending our farmers, fisherfolk, and organizations with outstanding accomplishments in the field of agriculture and fisheries.

It is only fitting that we pay tribute to our farmers in the countryside, whose contribution to our country's economy and food production stands unparalleled. Their commitment to national renewal manifest in their labor amid challenges brought about by nature and by market necessities. This award is a recognition that our path to progress entails the continuous development of our agricultural sectors, and that the continuing efforts of our countrymen in the rural areas are crucial in our fight against poverty. It is my hope that the achievements of our Gawad Saka honorees will inspire more Filipinos to join our movement in nation and workforce our economy.

Your support and this Filipino people's yearning for change continue to steer us along the straight and righteous path to genuine reform. Let us reclaim the glory of our nation under the daylight of transparency, accountability, and integrity.

Benigno S. Aquino III
President, Republic of the Philippines

Isang malaki ng pagkilala at pasasalamat sa mga nanalong magsasaka, mangingisda, kawaksan, kamahan at iba pa kating kabiwang sa katapusan na kaptibon nani para sa **2009-2010 Gawad Saka**.

Malubha ang isang tapunang pamagat na ito bilang isang napunong sa kanangan ng pagpapahalaga sa ambisyon ng kalikasan at pangkabuhan. Hindi lamang ibayo inspirasyon ang mga pagkilalahan na ibibigay nang patibong, kundakan sa agrikultura, kapag ito ay nakita ang lahat ng mga pagsisikap para makamit ang isang masaya na kinabukasan.

Sa kabila ng pamumuno ng Pangulong Aquino, kinakailangan ang pamayanan na ang kanilang pagsisikap ng Pagpapalaya ang pagmahal ng mahusay, tapat at napapanahong suporta at kalinga na sunapo mapa lamang ninyong makinggan.

Lakumin nating sapunan ang pambansang katapatan sa lagak at na ang pagtupad, at pakamion ang mga Pilipinong umaasam at sumapanin sa mapuso sa sakahan at pangisdaan. – nang hindi nakakalimutan ang katungan ng kalikasan.

Hi hapong mga kumapagan ng pagkilala sa Gawad Saka ang inspirasyon narong makinggunsa sa komunidad ito ng pamahalaan. Binabatayan ninyo ang pating kabalagan ng loob at determinasyon ng isang Dakilang Pilipino.

Patos, pagpupuri natin ang ating pagkilalahan. Nakasi'y bigyan tayo ng Maibat na Pangarinan ng pambayang lahat upang makamayaan ang mga pagsubok na darating para sa kabuuanan ng ating mga dakilang adhikain.

**Maligayang araw ng magsasaka at mangingisdang Pinoy!**

Proceso J. Alcala
Kalihim, Kagawaran ng Pagsasaka

PRAISE: Icon Bob Dylan turns 70 this week with stars lining up to pay tribute to the 1960s folk-protest singer turned songwriter-rock legend. —AP

# Landslides bury orphanage

SOLOLA, GUATEMALA—Two landslides that hit a Mayan-run orphanage killed 21 boys and one adult but nine people survived, police said on Wednesday after a nearly 15-hour rescue mission ended.

Osmiler police chief Abdel Rashid Hailah said the bodies of 15 boys, aged 8 to 16, and a 34-year-old caretaker had been recovered. Six boys and three searchers who were critically injured in the landslides have been hospitalized, he said.

Medical officers had to amputate the leg of one of the boys as the rain after he was pulled out alive, and three very thin rescued movement bleeding, health ministry official Ayesi Ayumi Shapiro said.

Abdel Rashid said the last rescued victim, a 9-year old boy was pulled out nearly eight hours after rains of early crashed through the orphanage late evening Monday Mother Boys in a steep village in central Solingen state.

Though it wasn't raining when the landslides occurred Saturday afternoon, wet weather in the past few days was the likely cause, he said.

The 15 people buried by the landslides were among 48 who were attending a multinational camp at the orphanage, he said. Most of the boys were orphans, but details were still unclear.

"They just had lunch at the tent by the side of the house when two landslides appeared seconds after each other," Abdel Rashid said. The deceased Peru. "The tent collapsed, burying 21 people so they did not have time to escape."

Mohamad Bambalumal, a resident at the orphanage, told local media that the children were preparing to receive visitors when the earth shook.

"I heard a loud noise. Suddenly the earth was shaking me. I had to run to save myself," Bambalil, 34, told the Malay-language Berita Harian newspaper.

A heavy downpour after the landslides hampered rescue operations by some 200 firefighters, police and others.

Abdel Rashid said rescuers had to dig through four rumors of sludge using their hands and equipment, and that the last body was retrieved nearly 15 hours after the landslides.

A small stream runs near the orphanage, a huge three-story house at a foothill in the semi-rural village. The house was just for Ahmadiyah and several tall trees fell due to the landslides.

Several houses near the orphanage were evacuated amid concerns of further landslides, Abdel Rashid said.

Minister Najib Razak, who is on a working visit to the United States, ordered an immediate investigation into the incident. Najib was quoted by the national news agency, Bernama, as saying the government would rebuild the orphanage and give financial aid to the victims' families.

"I am saddened by the tragedy... Hopefully, the government's contribution can help ease the burden of the victims' families," he said.

Najib said he would visit the site of the landslides as well as families of the victims when he returns to the country Tuesday.

The Selangor state government ordered an investigation into the safety of hillsides in the area.

Several landslides have caused damage in the country's largest city, Kuala Lumpur, and surrounding areas in recent years. They are usually blamed on rapid development, deforestation and poor maintenance of drainage systems.

The worst landslide occurred in 1993 when a 11-story condominium block collapsed, killing 48 people. AP

# Bob Dylan isn't slowing down at 70

LOS ANGELES— Music icon Bob Dylan turns 70 this week with stars lining up to pay tribute to the 1960s folk-protest singer turned songwriter-rock legend, still touring after half a century.

Dubbed the "voice of a generation" for anthems like "The Times they Are a Changin'" and the poet laureate of folk for "Very Mr. Tambourine Man" and others, Dylan shows no signs of slowing down as he enters his eighth decade.

"He's an inspiration, really, to us all, beyond even the songwriting, because he's always trying to go somewhere new. I love the man," said fledgling Saxon guitarist Stefan Raffaelli, no relation to himself.

US frontman Rose said the young Dylan was way ahead of his time. "The rumble of words, images, wit and spleen... shapeshifts easily into music forms 10 or 20 years away like punk, grunge or hip-hop," he wrote in Rolling Stone magazine.

It is not clear how Dylan will celebrate his birthday on Tuesday but at least he's not actually on the road. His informally dubbed "Never Ending Tour" is taking a break this month, although it will resume in Europe in mid-June.

Last month he was in Asia, playing 17 dates in arenas from Taiwan to New Zealand, and he sang dates in Beijing and Shanghai shrouded by unnecessary snow reports—denied by Dylan—that he was censored by Chinese authorities.

It is all a long way from his humble beginnings as Robert Allen Zimmerman, born in 1941 in Duluth, Minnesota, who taught himself to play the harmonica, guitar and piano.

Captivated by the music of folksinger Woody Guthrie, Zimmerman changed his name to Bob Dylan—reportedly after the Welsh poet Dylan Thomas—and began performing in local nightclubs.

After dropping out of college he moved to New York in 1960. His first album was contained only two original songs, but the 1963 breakthrough "The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan" featured a slew of his own work including the classic "Blowin' in the Wind."

Over the years Dylan has won 11 Grammy awards, as well as two Golden Globe and even an Oscar in 2001, for best original song "Things have Changed" in the movie "Wonder Boys." AFP

## WORLD BRIEFS

### UN: Tunisia uprising killed 300

TUNIS—Some 300 people died in the Tunisian uprising, a UN official said on Saturday. "About 300 people were killed and 130 injured during the troubles between December 17 and January 14," Juan Mendez, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture, told reporters. Mendez cited figures provided by Tunisia's interim administration, relating to the deaths of popular protest that led to the overthrow of Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali, after 23 years in power. The new figure is substantially higher than the previous toll issued by Tunisian officials in mid-February, which had put the death toll at 234. AFP

### Baghdad blasts kill 16

BAGHDAD— More than a dozen bomb attacks in and around Baghdad on Sunday left 16 people dead, including 10 people killed in a suicide attack, and more than 70 wounded. A total of 33 roadside bombs, three vehicles packed with explosives and one suicide attacker struck in the space of morning hours on Sunday, although it was not immediately clear to what extent. It was the deadliest day in Iraq since Monday. The deadliest attack saw 10 people killed and 35 wounded in a suicide bombing in the town of Taji, 30 km north of the capital, officials from the interior and defense ministries said, on condition of anonymity. Among the casualties were six police killed and 32 wounded. AFP

### Afghan suicide attacks

KABUL— Suicide attackers armed with rifles and disguised in police uniforms on Sunday launched a traffic police headquarters in eastern Afghanistan and killed three officers, officials said. The attack occurred in southern Khost province which borders Pakistan, and came the day after six medical students were killed and 20 others wounded when a suicide bomber struck at Kabul's heavily-guarded main military hospital. The early morning attack provoked a firefight that led to foreign troops stationed in Khost arriving at the scene to support Afghan troops, an AFP reporter said. AFP

### Iceland volcano eruption

REYKJAVIK— The latest eruption of volcano under Iceland's largest glacier began erupting on Saturday, the Icelandic Meteorological Office said, reporting a tall plume of smoke rising from the crater. "An eruption in Grimsvotn has started and three low airplanes on its way there now to investigate further," Icelandic Directorate of the Office told AFP. AFP

SMART MONEY

Ang SMART Money mo, may 700 more ways na para mag-apply.

BDO

SMART Money applications now accepted in over 700 BDO branches nationwide

Para pwede ka nang mag:

PASA PERA
Instant cash transfer na simbilis ng text

SAFE INTERNET SHOPPING
Safe na online shopping dahil sa lock-unlock feature for transactions

AIRTIME RELOAD
Get 5% bonus load kapag nag-reload ng SMART Prepaid, Talk 'N Text or red mobile SIM

Apply na sa BDO at i-link ang card sa SIM for a chance to win SMART Bro units, iPod nanos and an iPad.

BDO

smart.com.ph/money



# Death toll in Syria pushes above 900

HOMS—Syrian security forces opened fire on a funeral procession for their anti-government protesters on Saturday, pushing the number of people reported killed in a two-month uprising to more than 900 and making it one of the deadliest of the Arab Spring.

The latest bloodshed suggests that crackdowns by President Bashar Assad's regime show no signs of easing despite international sanctions and condemnations from the US and its allies.

Including Libya—where Syrian forces back Muammar Gadhafi's forces and his opponents have left possibly thousands dead since February—Syria's death toll is now higher than any country that has been gripped by uprisings.

Dwarfing Egypt's 18-day revolt that toppled Assad's longtime ally President Hosni Mubarak on Feb. 11, at least 846 Egyptians died. In Tunisia—which sparked the region's upheavals—an estimated 219 people were killed before President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali stepped down in January.

A crackdown by authorities in Yemen, has left more than 150 protesters dead, opposition groups say. The number killed in Bahrain, Oman and other places shaken by unrest is far lower.

Syria's bloodshed also stands out because of its relative small population: about 23 million people compared with 81 million in Egypt. Tunisia has about 10.5 million people.

The Syrian toll is based on tallies by rights activists and other sources opposing Assad's government. Syrian officials have often reported deaths of security forces and others—blaming them on armed thugs—but have not given any thousands. Syria has banned most foreign journalists so death counts cannot be independently verified.

Gadhafi, too, has placed strict limits on media in government-held territory, making independent reporting impossible. Rebels have claim thousands have been killed since protests began in February.

Most of Syria's deaths have occurred on Fridays when tens of thousands of people march to the streets from mosques following midday prayers, the traditional noon prayer. The National Organization for Human Rights in Syria raised the latest Friday death toll to 64, making it one of the deadliest days since the uprising against Assad's regime began in mid-March.

Assad has also dragged off to talks to stay aside as well as a new rounds of uncertainty targeting him and top aides. On Thursday, US President Barack Obama said Assad should lead his country to democracy or "get out of the way." Syria's official news agency said Obama's administration amounted to "incitement."

"International pressure is still weak," said Hilal Khashan, a political science professor at the American University of Beirut. "Despite Obama's speech, the regime knows that staying in power is more important and in order to stay in power the regime is ready to do anything."

On Saturday, tens of thousands of people took part in the funeral for eight of those killed a day earlier in the central city of Homs, local activists said. The funeral procession came under fire as the people marched from a cemetery, leaving at least three dead and dozens wounded, they said.

The government repeatedly has blamed the unrest on armed gangs rather than anti-government protesters. AP

# Yemen leader promises to quit anew

SANAA—Under pressure from protesters and regional allies, Yemen's president said on Saturday he will sign a deal to step down after 32 years in power, but condemned the proposal as "a coup" and warned the US and Europe that his departure will open the door for al-Qaeda to seize control of the fragile nation on the edge of famine.

The latest signals from Yemen's embattled president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, followed two earlier promises by him to sign the proposal. Both times he backed away at the last minute, adding to the opposition's deep mistrust of a leader known for the adept political maneuvering that has kept in power for decades.

In a sign that he may be ready to sign this time, the coalition of opposition political parties involved in the talks with Gulf Arab mediators was persuaded to sign the deal on Sunday, a day ahead of Saleh, based on what it said were guarantees that the president would sign the deal on Sunday.

"We accept the initiative to stop bloodshed," Saleh said in a televised speech, and an official statement earlier in the day said he would sign the deal on Sunday.

The proposal, mediated by a six-nation regional bloc called the Gulf Cooperation Council, gives him immunity from prosecution if he leaves office within 30 days. It is far from certain, however, whether it would satisfy all of the many different groups protesting his rule in the streets.

One week after Saleh signs, the opposition takes leadership of a national unity government that will include representatives of Saleh's party. Parliament will then pass a law granting him legal immunity and a day later—90 days after the deal is signed—he is to step down and transfer power to his deputy. AP

POPE Benedict XVI talks with astronauts in space from the Vatican on Saturday. AP

# Pope Benedict makes first-ever call to space

CAPE CANAVERAL—Pope Benedict XVI had a direct line to the heavens on Saturday, with Mass's help.

Speaking from the Vatican, the pontiff borrowed a historic blessing upon the 12 astronauts circling Earth during the first ever papal call to space, wishing a swift recovery for the shuttle commander's wounded congresswoman wife and consolidation her a station astronaut mourning his mother's death.

The "real sacrilegious" conversation, as Benedict described it, occurred after the Endeavour astronauts inspected a small statue the children's bedside on their only return to Earth after repairing the International Space Station in just over a week. Nasa later determined the damage posed no threat to the next to last flight in the 30-year shuttle program.

Seated at a table before a television set tuned to Nasa's live broadcast, the pope said he did not like the space travelers that "you are not representatives spearheading humanity's exploration of new spaces and possibilities for our future." He just his admired their courage, intelligence and curiosity.

"I must be obvious to you how we, all live together on one Earth and how denied it is that we fight and kill each one," the pontiff said, reading from prepared remarks.

Benedict asked about the future of the planet and the environment. Asks it. Jesus, and wanted to know what the astronauts' most important message would be for young people when they return home. AP

## *In pain? Crossing your arms may help*

LONDON—Crossing your arms across the middle of your body can harm the brain and helps reduce the intensity of pain, according to research published on Friday.

Scientists from University College London (UCL) who repeated the finding in the journal Pain said they think the reason for the phenomenon is conflicting information between sets of the brain's maps—one for the body and one for external space.

"In everyday life you usually use your left hand to touch things on the left side of the world, and your right hand for the right side of the world," Giandomenico Iannetti of UCL's department of physiology, pharmacology and neuroscience, said in a statement from the research.

He said the reason the brain scans that hold the map of the right body and the map of right external space are usually activated together, leading to very effective pain processing.

"When you cross your arms these maps are not activated together anymore," he said, leading to less effective processing meaning that stimuli such as pain are perceived as weaker.

In the study, scientists used a laser to generate a tiny millisecond pulse of "pure pain"—in other words pain without touch—on the hands of a group of right participants.

This was then repeated with arms crossed.

Participants rated their perception of the pain intensity and their electrical brain responses were also measured using electroencephalography (EEG). Results from both participants' reports and the EEG showed that the perception of pain was weaker when the arms were crossed.

"Perhaps when we get hurt, we should not only 'rub it better' but also cross our arms," Iannetti said.

The researchers hope their discovery could lead to the development of new drugs and therapies to reduce pain that exploit the brain's way of mapping the body. Reuters

**UFL: Loyola Meralco stops Navy FC**

LOYOLA MERALCO capped Navy FC, 2-1, yesterday in the United Football League at Rizal Memorial Colleges Manila Heritage battles Sparks with three goals, including one in the third minute. JP Mendiola scored in the 21st minute.

Loyola Meralco temporarily occupies fifth place in the First Division while Navy FC remained winless in seven outings. Global Cebu remains atop Pizza Cup, 1-3, with a 6th goal from Aaron Atkins in the 30th minute. —Jonathan O. Duenas, Correspondent

Editor Rodolfo A. Dalisay
Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa

# SPORTS

Metro desk: fax 896-2214/891-9 ext. | Website: www.inquirer.net/sports | E-mail: sc_sports@inquirer.net.ph
Text to your feedback: inquirer sports message to 0917-5-897

**WHAT'S INSIDE**

- Mavs up 2-1 versus Thunder /A31

Bring Passion to your Kiss

ORAHERB
Mouthwash with Herbs
Goodbye bad breath and mouth sores!
Hello long-lasting fresh breath!
KISS NOW

JIMMY Alapag (front): To make it back to the national team is a huge honor. MANNY MORO

# TNT chasing grand slam with Alapag, Williams

By Jun Mascuria

MORATUW—Rommy Alapag and Kelly Williams will remain major cogs in the grand slam bid of Talk 'N Text in the season-ending Governors Cup before suiting up for the Smart Gilas national team.

Both players made the decision as one option for both squads during the PBA Board of Governors meeting held hours before the all-star game pitting the North and the South squads at the Bocaue Convention Center.

But commissioner Chito Salud made it clear that Alapag and Williams weren't be released to play any game of the Tropang Texters once the import-favored conference kicks off with a pair of out-of-the-country games on June 2 in Dubai.

"If they decide to play for the Governors Cup, it will have to be from start to finish. And if they decide not to play, it's from start to finish," said Salud. "But there's no question about it that they will play for the national team by September."

Salud said the board felt it best to leave the decision to Alapag and Williams, who were picked by Smart Gilas head coach Rajko Toroman, along with Ildefonso's Asi Taulava and Ateneo's Gordon Heytmeyer to reinforce the Nationals in the Asian championship in Wuhan, China, on Sept. 15 to 25.

The Governors Cup is expected to end on the third week of August.

"It's a very, very rare opportunity that Kelly and I will have. To be back in the national team is a huge honor and we're looking forward to it," said Alapag, the Finals MVP together with Jason Castro in TNT's championship run in the Philippine Cup Commissioner's Cup.

Alapag and Williams will miss the national team's pocket tournaments in Portugal and Turkey and the Jones Cup in Taipei, the last tournament for Smart Gilas before the Asian championship where a ticket in the 2012 London Olympics is at stake.

# Routs mark start of SeaOil NBTC Elite League finals

By Cordell P. Tupas

BACOLOD CITY—Bacolelhi Coffee Shop Negros U and Purefoods T.J.S. John's gave their visiting rivals a rude welcome yesterday at the start of the SeaOil National Basketball Training Center Elite League finals at the MVSU gymnasium.

The Baby Mustangs, peerless on their home floor, trounced Magnolia Ice Cream La Union, 89-78, even as St. John's, relying on its sleek run-and-gun game, hammered out a lopsided 92-54 win over Magnolia Fresh Chicken Bulacan.

Rik Montalbo, who made his presence felt in a popular national basketball camp last year, struck hard with a balanced assault with 12 points and nine rebounds contributed 10 for St. John's, which faces 0 Mcg Derby Ace Online today.

Maggy Parcasabla, a reinforcement from Christian Academy of Bacolod, who is also the grandson of Philippine Olympic Committee chair Monico Puentevella, struck for backed for the Baby Mustangs with 16 points.

St. John's clamped down on Bulacan's shooters, holding them to just 33 points in the first three quarters to seal early the one-sided victory.

If Mcg Dominic Lucena banked on a fast start to hold off Star Margarine Olongapo, 80-75, to share the group A lead with Magnolia Frozen Delights Ilello, on 64-72, summer over Magnolia Milk General Santos.

Alex Barrera, a 6-foot-5 center, showed his immense potential by bring 20 points.

Red Rated Bolts missed but best behind the arc, sinking six triples in the third period on his way to a game-high 26 points while Jeorge Allende retrieving outfit 14 for Bolts, which was powered by members from San Sur Sen High School.

The opening day of the tournament backed by Smart Philippines, Burlington, Wenge Jeans and Molten under the Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas was graced by SBP executive director Sonny Barrios and SBTC executive director Eric Altamirano and Donaid executive Boy Jimenez.

GET BACK YOUR HAIR PERMANENTLY AT PINEDAHAIR
BEFORE AFTER
MANILA (02) 813-0891
DAVAO (082) 221-2662
www.pinedahair.com

CENTRO
BAGABAG TOWER CORPORATION
BAGABAG CENTRO, VIGAN SAMAHAN
GO DL MAX
Why Car Dealers and Customers Prefer CENTRO GO DL MAX BODY
930-0971 • 419-9083

Samsonite
FOR SAFER CRASH LAB
Cosmolite, the strongest and lightest Samsonite ever.

# French Open blasts off today

## *Huey-Raja cops doubles title*

PARIS... It's been eight years since the last time Roger Federer was not awarded No. 1 or 2 at a Grand Slam tournament. It's also been that long since he won more than 12 months without winning any major title.

With the French Open starting Sunday, top-seeded Rafael Nadal's pursuit of a record-tying sixth championship at Roland Garros and second-seeded Novak Djokovic's 27-0 start to the season are dominating the conversation.

The focus, for a change, is not on the third-seeded Federer, owner of a record 16 Grand Slam titles, including the 2009 French Open. And he sounds as if he is absolutely fine with that.

"This is definitely a year for me where I can come into this tournament with just a little less pressure than, let's say, the last six, seven years, really," said Federer, whose first-round match against Feliciano Lopez of Spain is scheduled for Monday.

Djokovic is slated to play Monday, while Nadal's opening match will be Tuesday. Most in action Sunday include David Ferrer and Llejton Hewitt; 2009 French Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova and 2008 runner-up Ivan Ljubicic are among the women on the Day 1 schedule.

For three years, Nadal and Djokovic are more than willing to declare the other the man to beat in Paris.

Asked whether he deserves that label, Nadal replied: "No. No, probably this year the favorite is Djokovic."

That was relayed to Djokovic, who declared: "I am he's the favorite."

Djokovic has won all seven tournaments he's entered this season and all seven matches he's played against Nadal—when he beat its clay-court finals at Madrid and Rome this month—and Federer. The Serb also won his last two matches of 2010, meaning he's at 39-0 as a new overall. AP

---

PILIPINO Infolit Copper Tour Grand Harp partnered with Indian Pinoy Nuja to crush a Polish wild card pair and capture the men's doubles crown of the Unifec Pardo Cement ATP Challenger in Cotonou, Indy.

Harp, the 25-year-old No. 2 player of the country's Davis Cup team behind Cecil Mamiit, joined hands with Raja to rout Somasi Bodiaardi and Marcus Bernabeyli, 6-3, 6-2, in the finals of the 50,000 euro event.

They pocketed the champions' purse of 1,000 euros (about P1,145,000) aside from AFP ranking points.

Harp is currently No. 97 in the world in singles but went as high as 91st last April after reaching the quarterfinals of the ATP Challenger in Adana, Greece.

The champion pair barged into the finals after beating Nikola Mektic of Croatia and Sanchai Ratiwatana of Thailand, 6-3, 7-6 (7-1).

Harp and Raja earlier eliminated Giuseppe Menga and Andrea Stoppini of Italy in the quarters, and Olivier Charroin of France and Judd Kadir of Australia in the first round.

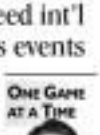
Harp didn't see action in the singles competition to concentrate on the doubles.

Last March, he partnered with Mamiit to win their doubles against Generalde Jr. Japos in their Davis Cup duel in the Philippines' Bay to Cebu. Japos went on to clinch the tie, 3-1.

He is expected to once again don the PH colors on July 8-10 for the second round playoffs against New Zealand. Marc Anthony Reyes

---

## We need int'l sports events



ONE GAME AT A TIME

Jet Sevenson

PARIS... The French Open is all set to explode in the city of lights. Despite its romantic pulse, Paris is a sports town where football and the Tour de France reside.

Major sports events galvanize the countries where they are held. If done well, the event becomes a tourist magnet bringing in income from accommodations, food, entertainment and souvenirs. More importantly, residents get involved as they root for their favorites while young sports enthusiasts become interested in heroes and aspire to play in those events some day.

The staging of reasonably priced but publicity loaded sporting events should be part of developing Philippine sports and tourism. Given our economic limitations, we may not be able to attract the top standard golfers or tennis players of the world. We may not be able to come up with our own major event that the big name players will include in their itineraries.

But we should do what we can given what we have. Manny Pangilinan and his group of entrepreneurs once staged a top-notch international basketball tourney, invited their opponent as to the high standards of the sport. In 1997 and 1998, our cycling tour became international events attracting team riders to gather against our best of runners. Still recently staged the Philippine Open. There are a few other sports that try to get attention but they don't seem able to sustain them because money eventually seems to be a stumbling block.

The most visible option seems to be in running and triathlon where our diverse landscapes and beach areas are perfect places for these events. Foreign participants come for such events and partake challenges and reasonable prize money. We can provide those along with our natural hospitality that prompts us to go out of our way to make guests feel at home. Committee Sta. Rosarios, Pedrosos and Subic are a few of the spots that are perfect for a challenging event.

Organizers of international sporting events in the country must develop superb management, financial and diplomatic skills to be able to stage these projects. They must know how to work with government no matter how difficult that may feel. Sports associations must remember that they have a partner in government and not an adversary.

Corporate sponsors must also do their share as they find ways to expose their products and connect with possible customers. Supporting basketball and biking or the now-in cheerleading competition are three are many other sports that need financial help. In turn, sports organizations must show sponsors that their money will be well spent for excellent exposure.

Even before the first move is unleashed in the French Open or the first flight wins off in the golf season, we can tell that so much is being done to make the event work. If handled well, financial, business and sports development gains can be achieved in international events. We should seriously consider holding more of these in the Philippines even if they are not per-major in the eyes of the world.

---

SERBIA'S Novak Djokovic leaves as the man to beat in the French Open tennis championship starting today. —

# PNG gets under way in Bacolod

By Jane Navarro

THE HOLIDAYS featured Games will showcase the elite athletes of the national team when it flies off today in the cities of Bacolod and Silay in Negros Occidental.

Athletics, arnis and gymnastics take center stage first with the national open and junior/youth and field championships offering a total of 28 gold medals at the Bernard Sports Complex oval.

Four golds each will be at stake in the 10 Ipins martial arts arnis and gymnastics.

Hometown favorites and 2009 Laro South meet Asian Games gold medalists Arnel Ferreras and Beatrix Villarba are expected to draw most of the attention in their respective stints in the track-long meet serving as national opens for most national sports associations and tryouts for this year's SEA Games in Indonesia.

Ferreras, 31, is a soldier in the men's heavyweight division event this Rehabilitation, Negros Occidental, native has been dominating in the five-athlete field of the PNG.

The 30-year-old Villarba, who hails from Bago City will try her hand in women's shot put this time after clinching the gold in women's javelin in Laos.

Other women's long jump champion Elizabeth Tonio and long distance runner Edmarks Bacsarpin are also seeing action in the four-day meddest of the PNG sponsored by Smart, Procter and Gamble, Scratch It, Go for Gold, Summit Water, Accel, Super Feet, and Negros Navigation.

The action pulls up for grabs at the Silay City plaza, are the men's and women's teams and individual "meet" found.

Over at the San Agustin College gym in downtown Bacolod, gymnastics stakes gold in the chess dance, and men's and women's individual all-around events.

An estimated 5,000 athletes, including 900 national team members and members of the development pool, will compete in 34 sports.

Philippine Sports Commission chair Richie Garcia, Philippine Olympic Committee secretary general Steve Dimakuta, Bacolod City Mayor Bing Leonardia and Silay City Mayor Ok Mascardo are expected to lead the guests at the new Bacolod City hall where the Olympic Day and 100 Years of Philippine Sports tunes started and ended.

---

## Farenas prevails; Rubillar drops 4th straight bout

SUPER FLYWEIGHT Michael Farenas won by majority decision over former WBO Youth Americas boxing Organization champion and world title challenger Daniel Ibeh of Nigeria as the Wednesday Cuadro Boxer card kips in Cenacon, California, Saturday night.

Two judges saw the Filipino southpaw the close winner with Pete Silverscoring it 79-73 and Fernando Villareal, 78-72. Judge James Jim Kin, however, scored the fight even, 75-75.

Jim Kim's scorecard was surprising since Farenas opted mostly to stand-away on and the Nigerian was also defeated a point in round six for continued holding.

With his fifth win in the US, Farenas, protégé of former two-division world champion Gerry Peñalosa, improved his record to 11-1-0, 2 knockouts (KOs) (25-7-1).

Prior to the fight, Peñalosa called the Ibeh "a great all-round fighter, who was trained by Freddie Roach, who improvisely, there's a possibility he would fight world titlist Nonvelin Gandiaza, next.

Meanwhile, Aussie Rubillar lost his fourth fight in a row when he suffered a 7th-round TKO at the hands of WBC Silver super flyweight champion Cesar Juarez in the main event of WBC 08-fan card at Pechanga Resort and Casino. Juarez improved to 27-1 while Rubillar fell to 44-13-3. Ramon Sutherland

---

## Mandaluyong five, Antipolo advance

ANTIPOLO AND Mandaluyong advanced to the top-two Zonal phase of the 3rd Coca-Cola Bonjie Basketball Capital Region Championship and while while Valenzuela dragged Zaloman into a do-or-die match for the fifth Zone slot.

Antipolo's Michael Dizon scored 20 points and Paul Rodriguez added 14 as it turned back Taytay, 78-70, in their Pool A zone playoffs.

Mandaluyong topped San Juan, 75-72, in a clash of Central Zone powers as Shoemark Cortez and Nahad Balogun each poured 20 points.

Top fourth Zone team Caloocan got ousted, however, as it bowed to Valenzuela, 88-77.

Defending champion Mandaluyong, meanwhile, blasted Las Piñas, 90-49, to beat South Zone rival. Gerardo L. Aquino, Contributor

## Burlington-Batang PBA stages clinic

SOME GAS learners play basketball from the professionals for practically free this summer with Burlington-Batang PBA Clinic on May 28 and June 4 at 4th Mall in Quezon City.

PBA coaches and players will serve as instructors/trainers in the event open to boys and girls ages 7 to 17 years old.

"We want the children to be involved in worthy undertakings like sports during their vacation without backbiting their parents off the cost to train them like a grandfather PBA," said Batang Tan, general manager of Burlington Industries Phils. Inc.

For registration, call 302 7113 loc. 130 (Jennet Escalante) or 470 3700 (Odette Pedros).

---

## Reyes, Pacquiao charming greats

INSIDE SPORTS

Antonio Nuñonuevo

SOME years ago, in a couple of polls on a TV show or so well as on the Internet, Efren "Bata" Reyes was voted No. 1 sports icon in the Philippines over pound for pound king Manny Pacquiao.

Since then, however, things have changed considerably and decisively and Pacquiao is now the near paper, for if not the most sought-after personality in sports, primarily because of his incredible achievements in boxing.

Both have the 36-year-old Reyes and the 32-year-old Pacquiao have undoubtedly been the best examples of humility and respect for their opponents, both at the pool table and in the ring.

That is one other telling factor that has endeared both men not just to Filipino sports fans but to people around the world.

With his tremendous success in the ring, his election as congressman in the May 10 elections last year and his emergence as a major producer endorsers of internationally established brands as Nike and Hennessy, Pacquiao is more just two, Pacquiao has made the transition from a fighter who has won eight titles in eight weight divisions to a genuine crossover star in the fiercely competitive American market.

While Reyes has not been fortunate

fast share of major international pool tournaments, the prize money seems so pittance compared to what Pacquiao makes in three fistfight purses, pay-per-view percentages, endorsement deals and personal appearances.

Both have their countless endorsements and often shared the stage in fun Miguel beer and Gasoline Boy Miguel television commercials. But it's clear that the best fifteen cents are nowhere near what Manny receives.

Interestingly, in the world famous around the world, from duke to the United States and Europe. Efren "Bata" Reyes is revered not just for his magical touch which has spanned more than three decades and held pool enthusiasts and opponents alike spellbound, but for his unbelievable simplicity often highlighted by a toothless, impish grin and a scratch of the head when he realizes what is many terms an impossible shot.

Pacquiao, on the other hand, is all business inside the ring, with his remarkable speed and power, rapid-fire and one movements from all angles and an explosiveness that often scares his opponents dejected on the seat of their pants or separated from their senses as in the case of Ricky "The Hitman" Hatton.

When Reyes, unquestionably to the twilight of his pool playing years, wrestle US Open One Pocket Championship the other day it was an achievement in which he held the audience in the palm of his sometimes arthritis-ridden hand, amused at some of his antics and shots he executed, all for a winning purse of $10,000.

Pacquiao, in crash courses probably earns an average of over $1.5 million for a round that lasts three minutes. But the difference in their earnings doesn't in any way reflect the character as well as what they both stand for the esteem, affection and respect of their countrymen.

In Reyes slowly fades as the dominating player he was and Pacquiao continues to reach new heights in his fistic career, we should all be thankful that it was during our lifetime that we had the privilege of watching and honoring two all-time greats who changed the landscape and dimensions of many sports arenas. Bata has indeed charmed the world with their showing simplicity and humility.

---

## Agojo trails by 3 shots

JINVIE AGOJO floundered morning home and settled for a one-under 71, falling behind by three shots to Asian bet Bettina Pao Hwang in the second round of the Malaysian Amateur Open Golf Championship at the 18-stamina Bel-Air's Puteky Public course in Serdang, Malaysia, this Saturday.

Agojo recorded a total of the last with a 53, but faltered with a 21 running home for a 142.

Hwang totaled three 70 and 37 to her 209 for a 139, two stroke ahead of new partner Ori Wang of Taiwan, who also shot 71 for a 139.

Another Filipina representative Ana Marie Lua Pudos is sulking near 72 at the top 8,720 landed her dominant with a 69 on the 1st, an under-par round heading into the final day of the 54-hole tournament.

---

## Samsung club champs tilt tomorrow

THE 2011 SAMSUNG National Tournament of Club Champions unfolds to-morrow with around 150 players vying for the coveted title in the Individual division at the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in Gen. Trias, Cavite.

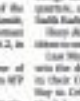
Back to back champion Dark Angel son of Lucinday heads the field in the men's division featuring winners of the leading golf clubs in the land.

Also on tap in the 36-hole staging of the event, sponsored by Samsung in partnership with Eagle Ridge GCC and its developers Ilo. Lucio Tesdey and Alexis Lund Inc. and Inquirer Land, the ladies, seniors and the senior's and ladies' divisions.

Each does will have its own qualifying stage with the top 16 in the men's category advancing to the knockout stage, starting Wednesday. The top eight players in the ladies and seniors classes and the top four in the special division will advance to the match play phase of the tournament backed by Mizuno as official host, Amped Papers, Mizuno, Dunmaster Tea, Nestpro and Tiffani by Empire, Cocnut Clubhouses and Dumbuster Industrial.

For details and tee times, log on to www.blacmanmanagement.com.

Among those gunning for match play berths in men's play are Chi-Hun Pyo of Eagle Ridge, Andrew Concepcion of Wack Wack, Marian de Leon of Mimosa, Wilhelm Bidoc of Baguio CC, Lamar Garcia of Orchard and Dennis Gonzales of Summit View.



SEA CHAMP Phil Mickelson right, with Rod Pampling after bagging the Class A crown in the Manila Southwoods senior's showcase tilt today. Golf tournament at the Masters course recently.

# Mavs up 2-1 versus Thunder

DALLAS Mavericks forward Dirk Nowitzki drives against Oklahoma City Thunder's Nick Collison.

OKLAHOMA CITY—Dirk Nowitzki scored 38 points during an off night for both of the game's superstars, and the Dallas Mavericks hung on for a 93-87 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder on Saturday to take a 2-1 lead in the Western Conference finals.

The Mavericks, who led with Miami for the league's best road record during the regular season, won for the fourth straight time outside Dallas in three playoffs and reclaimed homecourt advantage just two nights after losing it in game one in Game 2.

Nowitzki—who's 7 for 25 from the field but Dallas still called on him in the clutch to hold off Oklahoma City's late charge.

"He's the best, even if he's not making shots early he wants the ball to make a play," Dallas guard Jason Kidd said.

NBA scoring champion Kevin Durant also struggled from the field, hitting just 7 of 31 shots to finish with 24 points and 12 rebounds. Russell Westbrook responded on a fourth-quarter benching but coming with 20 points, helping the Thunder rally from 23 points down to make it interesting in the final minutes.

Dallas had already blown a 23-point lead in the final 13 minutes in the first round at Portland, and led by 22 with 17 minutes to go this time.

Even with Nowitzki struggling, the Mavericks hunted out the big German with the Thunder closing the gap. Nowitzki got the ball on 30 of 112 possessions and scored just three times, but it was enough to keep Oklahoma City at bay.

Shawn Marion also scored 18, and Kidd and Terry each chipped in 13. Terry's three-shot had 15 rebounds, including six on the offensive end.

Oklahoma City fell behind by as many as 23 after a dreadful start, and it didn't get much better for a while. The Thunder had made only 10 of their 41 shots when Dallas extended its lead to 58-36 by scoring the first six points after halftime.

Harden, the bench star with 23 points in Game 2, started a rally by driving for a layup and then taking an elbow from Chandler to draw a technical foul. That started a burst of eight straight points to get the Thunder within 65-52, the closest they'd been since the end of the first quarter.

Westbrook continued the comeback in the fourth by exploiting a matchup against JJ Barea to get to the rim and the foul line repeatedly.

The rally fizzled after that, though, and the Mavericks now hold the advantage going into Game 4 at Oklahoma City on Monday. AP

# Hopkins, 46, is boxing's oldest champ

MONTREAL—Bernard Hopkins became the oldest fighter to win a major world championship, taking the WBC light heavyweight title Saturday night from Jean Pascal at the age of 46.

Hopkins (52-5-2) is the oldest fighter to take a major world belt since George Foreman took the heavyweight title with a victory over Michael Moorer in 1994.

"I won't enter on if I'm 50," Hopkins said.

He won the WBC, IBO and The Ring magazine titles from the 220-year-old Pascal (26-3-1), the Montreal fighter who was making his fifth defense before 17,969 at the Bell Centre.

The bout was a rematch of their Dec. 18 draw in Quebec City.

"He's a great champion. He has great richness and a lot of tricks. I was a young champion," Pascal said of Hopkins in the ring afterwards.

Hopkins landed more punches and was able to slip many of Pascal's power shots, answering with clever jabs and scoring more body shots on right hand leads.

Hopkins will next fight Dawson (30-1).

In Moscow, Russia's Denis Lebedev stopped former multiple world champion Roy Jones Jr in the 10th and final round of their light heavyweight unification bout.

With just seconds remaining before the final gong, Lebedev caught Jones with a flurry of punches to send the American to the canvas. AP, Reuters

HOPKINS

# Suba outguns Japanese, local karting rivals

U.I.M.BA outfitted highly favored Japanese rivals and local racers in the 2011 Denso RP2 4PH Cup Karting Series at the Carmona Racetrack recently.

Suba maximized the power of his borrowed machine to top the qualifying round over Hidetoo Shimoda and teammate Wilo Rivera in 42.653 seconds.

In the final heat, Suba refused to wilt under pressure and unleashed a timely maneuver to dig past Shimoda to a tight 20-lap win. He clocked 14 minutes and 26.459 seconds, 0.232 milliseconds ahead of Macatlo.

Suba also dominated three 6, completing his course in 14:32.649.

Macatlo and Japanese Kenshi Mizuyawa finished in second and third, respectively.

The championship leg is set on Nov. 19 and 20 at the Clark International Speedway. For inquiries, call 8609345 or 8454132.

Carmela L. Dayacon, Contributor

## 4-cock derby at Elorde tonight

A 4-COCK derby-Derby of Champion will be held tonight at the Elorde Cockpit Stadium in Santa Rosa.

Presided by Subdivision Administrator Johnny Jacela, more than 10 entries are expected to participate, Rifkal Cagara, Ben Pedro, Capote, Claude and Pendleton Cagara, undefeated prize is P300,000.

The handler and the owner of the winning entry shall receive P50,000 and P10,000, respectively, with a consolation set at P5,000. Weight limit is more 1.8 to 2.4kg.

First fight will start at 1 p.m. Submission of weighing is from 6 a.m. to 12 noon.

Meanwhile, a one-cock derby will be held on May 30 for the Nicholas Bakal Collector and promoted by Uncle Management. Registration starts at 7 a.m. Fight starts at noon.


PHILIPPINE MARKETING ASSOCIATION Since 1984

TRUE MARKETING STORIES EXPOSED!

The 42nd National Marketing Conference

Unveiling Secrets for Business Success

Government in Marketing Excellence

Discover the secrets behind the successes of the big names in business! This year's National Marketing Conference takes you to a deeper, comprehensive look into the ever-changing landscape of Philippine marketing. This is where the truth about marketing is exposed – real stories as told by people who took a bold step and made an impact in the industry! Learn practical tips on how to manage your business and get it straight from the source!

June 23 & 24, 2011 / GRAND BALLROOM, SOFITEL PHILIPPINE PLAZA

DAY 1: Understanding the Philippine Market

- **Investigating the State of Marketing**
  A comprehensive look into the dynamic trends of today's Philippine market.
  DR. AMECETO "NICK" FONTANILLA
  President, The Asia Pacific Research Center (ACRE)
- **Captivating Today's Unfaithful Customer**
  Identifying and understanding key factors and "temptations" that influence market behavior.
  MS. ELIZABETH LEE
  President, Universal Motors Corporation
- **War for Marketing Talents**
  Find out how small companies can compete with the big ones in terms of attracting potential manpower.
  MS. AGNES FIDELINO
  Senior Vice President/Executive Director
  MMLDC Foundation
- **Monitoring and Measuring Social Media Network**
  Learn creative ways to position your products against those who are already established.
  MR. MARK MACKENZIE
  Managing Director CSR, Social Media Strategists, Hongkong
- **Sense and Sensibility Challenge: Marketing the Experience**
  Winning market strategies through the heart!
  MR. ROBERT KUAN
  Chairman of the Board, St. Luke's Medical Center Founder, Chowking Food Corporation

DAY 2: Marketing Solutions

- **The Science of Innovative Marketing: Leading The Way for the EmPreneur of the 21st Century**
  A lecture workshop presentation that will stretch your imagination as you learn the ropes of becoming an innovative marketer.
  MR. BIENVENIDO "DODOS" POLICARPIO
  President, Prudentialife Market Resource Corp.
- **Digital Brand Health: A Framework for Marketing using Digital**
  Viewing positively the big makeover –PR and marketing get digital
  DR. DONALD LIM
  Managing Director, Mc Cann Erickson Worldwide Phils.
- **Bringing the Goods to the Next Level**
  Strategies, contacts, and secrets in distributing your products
  MR. SIMPLICIO UMALI SR.
  President, Gardenia Bakeries Philippines Inc.
- **Branding Against the Big Brands**
  Find out how differentiating your product from the big brands can successfully and effectively penetrate your market.
  *(Speaker to be announced later courtesy of the major sponsor.)*
- **Promotions that Really Make Money**
  The story behind a famous business entity and their promos that brought customers by the droves
  *(Speaker to be announced later courtesy of the major sponsor.)*
- **The First Moment of Truth: Bringing out the Marketing Genius in Us**
  Discover inspiring ways to get people join a noble cause, plus how emotional marketing can help brand activation.
  PROF. ALBERTO SALDAJENO JR.
  Managing Director, Tanghalang Henyo Pedagogical Arts

REGISTER NOW!

LIMITED SLOTS AVAILABLE!

PARTICIPATION FEES:
Regular - Php 15,000.00 April 1, 2011 - June 22, 2011
On Site - Php 17,000.00 June 23, 2011
Academe, Government (Please present your ID) and PMA Chapters - Php 6,900.00
Foreign Delegates - USD 350.00 inclusive of conference attendance and three (3) nights stay at Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila

For registration and other particulars, please call the PMA Secretariat at the following numbers: 634-5722, 636-1451, 634-4890 and 638-7700, or visit www.pma2003@philippinesmarketing.net.ph or email philippinesmarketing@pldtdsl.net

San Miguel PALE PILSEN

# Sarap Mag Babad

FREEZE THE SUMMER

# THE BEER OF SUMMER FREEZES THE COUNTRY!

Thousands of fun seekers are cooling down the sweltering heat with the official beer of summer. It's Sarap Mag Babad all over again and you can still dive into its icy activities for the rest of the summer. So round up the barkada and make what's left of this season even more memorable!

Awesome display of coolness!

What a way to break the ice!

Babad Party Series!

Babad babes await you at the beach!

Pics Mo, Freeze Mo sa Summer!

We gave away a cool million!

PICS MO FREEZE MO SA SUMMER

Visit: www.sanmiguelpalepilsen.com.ph

Editor Raul O. Morales • Assistant Editor Cecile S. Mariano

BUSINESS

# Privatization of SCTEx hits a snag

## Bid winner hits 'midnight' contract changes by BCDA

By Paolo G. Montecillo

HONG KONG—The privatization of the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEx) has been put on hold due to a "midnight" decision by the Bases Conversion and Development Authority to introduce changes in the contract.

Manila North Tollways Corp. (MNTC), chaired by business executive Manuel V. Pangilinan, last November won the 31-year contract to operate and manage the 94-kilometer highway.

But Pangilinan expressed dismay at the BCDA's last-minute changes to the contract's financial terms—a sign of indecisiveness that put in question the integrity of the government's public private partnership (PPP) infrastructure projects.

"We already signed the concession agreement with the BCDA last November. This was approved by the Toll Regulatory Board and the Office of the Government Corporate Counsel," Pangilinan said.

"Just days before they retired, the previous management of the BCDA issued last-minute memos," he told Manila-based reporters.

Pangilinan said former BCDA Chair Alejandro Santos, an appointee of then President Arroyo, demanded changes in the concession contract's financial terms.

Under the original deal, MNTC would pay semi-annual concession fees in the first five years that the government would use to pay off loans taken out to build the road.

PRIVATIZATION B2

**IN THIS ISSUE**

■ **Biz Buzz:** Money woes at Stradcom /B2

■ **European support** rising for Lagarde's IMF bid /B17

**INDICATORS**

**PESO-DOLLAR RATE**

May 20, 2011

43.120

**STOCK MARKET**

May 20, 2011

▼ 12.77

**Stocks seen to consolidate**

LEGAL STOCKS are seen remaining in the consolidation mode this week due to lack of fresh incentives to boost up on-day action.

Last week, the Philippine Stock Exchange index ended at 4,390.33, about 2.16 percent lower than the previous week's level. Since the start of the year, however, the index was still ahead by 7 percent.

STOCKS B2

20 hours of Internet with Call & Text Unlimited, all for just ₱450/month.

twitter friendster PEP PHILIPPINE ENTERTAINMENT PORTAL Gmail Google YAHOO!

SUN PLAN 450 20 Hours of Internet

Live life fully connected with email and web access on the go.
Surf everyday on your mobile Internet with Sun.

20 hours of mobile Internet* • 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited**
250 texts to other networks • Free phone

Visit The Sun Shop now!
Hotline: (02) 395-8000 or 200 using any Sun mobile
www.suncellular.com.ph

Phone options:

SUN CELLULAR POSTPAID

Lending a hand in managing your business through our Check Cutting Services.
Maybank
Simple answers to business hassles.

# Money woes at Stradcom

MANILA STANDARD

BIZ BUZZ
*By the staff*

Capital International (MSCI) on its inclusion in its inflows and global standard indices.

On May 26, MSCI announced from Geneva that, as part of its semi-annual index review, ICTSI would be included in its global standard indices, the only "addition" from the Philippines. The index recomposition would have taken effect on June 1. ICTSI soared to a 52-week high of P56.75 a share after the "good" news from MSCI. But to and behold, MSCI announced the very next day an advisory that ICTSI would not be included after all, dragging down ICTSI prices below the P50-a-share mark and angering a lot of investors who had realigned their portfolios based on the earlier advisory.

Many fund managers and stock dealers felt they were taken for an unjolly ride. MSCI's withdrawal of ICTSI had something to do with foreign equity ownership limits, but Philippine investors were upset that the change of heart happened overnight. Was it an error on the part of MSCI? Why was its inclusion announced to the first place only to be promptly withdrawn? Some fund managers even talked about the possibility of filing a lawsuit. As of press time, MSCI has not explained the oversight headache. *Boris C. Jhamlan*

**More on "Broker B"**

IN OUR previous edition, we cited a complaint filed against this stockbroker, "Broker B", who was accused of having bought additional shares of the Philippine Stock Exchange even after a "freeze" order issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission until after the PSE would have complied with the controversial 20-percent single stockholder ownership limit prescribed by the Securities Regulation Code.

Top PSE officials advised that "Broker B," who won a seat in the 33-member PSE board during the recent polls, had not used those additional shares to influence the results of the elections. "Broker B" told no less than new PSE chair Jose Pardo that he had not used those shares to get himself elected.

But those who filed the complaint against "Broker B" at the SEC insisted that even if he did not use the shares, the intention was questionable and the act of buying those new shares was a serious violation of the Freeze order. It was also pointed out that the rules of the PSE's nominations and elections committee (Nomelec) states that candidates must not have had any SEC violations, be it continuous. *Boris C. Jhamlan*

**Reviving Coral Reef**

THE LONG dormant 35-hectare Coral Reef resort on Sharon Island may soon get a new lease on life as an upscale residential-resort development as Kapitan Lance Tiaoo's Dion Properties is keen on taking over the property that was foreclosed by an offshore bank.

It had taken the group quite some time to review the property due to legal complications involved in the foreclosure proceedings, but now that legal matters have been settled, Tiaoo plans to buy the property and give neighboring Silangit-La and the Ultimo golf complexion. *Boris C. Jhamlan*

**What sells where**

HOPEWIDE, the country's first hypermarket, is among the first supermarket operations in the country to track customers habits and and buying preferences.

According to Hopewise vice president for marketing Primrose Pa, the best-selling items at their Makati branch was, at one point, rubber slippers, while in Antipolo it was the Shopwise Assumptions which sells for less than P60 for half a dozen. At El Abasang branch it was Safeguard soap, but for its Manila branch its top seller was ... guess what? ... 3/4 Care feminine wash. (We would only guess that this is due to the Manila branch's proximity to the nightclubs and girlie bars of Ermita.)

Meanwhile, during the launch of the supermarket chain's partnership with Globe Telecom, Hopewise president Dominic Samboco's face was filled with joy as he had just flown in from the Iran where he attended the beatification of Pope John Paul II with his kids. PR pro old Ramon's founder Rosevenido Tantoco.

The younger Tantoco told the audience that the aura of the very significant event was still with him so people were free to hug him and share the goodvibes.

He also related how he took care of his grandfather during the beatification rites by shielding him from the sun with a tiny newspaper until a big Italian offered him an umbrella. Tsundeng. *Margie Quiroz-Espino*

**Perks of power**

SOP a few residents of the posh Ayala Alabang Village became upset after a 7:30 p.m. Sunday blast occurred after a black SUV straightforwardly blocked the driveway of the St. James Parish church and held up the queue for everyone.

According to people who witnessed the event, the SUV with a "7" plate number (Ah, seeing that it was owned by a senator of the Republic) stopped in the middle of the driveway for four minutes, unmindful of the growing queue of vehicles waiting to pick up parishioners, including several old and infirm ones.

And who owned the SUV La Ina? Nobody, it was no other than Sen. Bong Revilla, who was standing right in the middle of the driveway, waiting for his wife, Lani, to emerge from the church (never mind the toy stores he was getting kids like the other well-heeled church goers).

His probably means they won't be voting for him in the next election. Not that they ever did. *Dustin L. Luzon*

*Anybusiness alerts send a private view of the Boss (the evening before it comes out. Text ON BIZ BUSINESS to 4467 (PLDT/Globe).*

*This announcement appears as a matter of record only*

RUSTAN SUPERCENTERS, INC.

SHOPWISE

**CORPORATE NOTE**

**P3,500,000,000**

**Noteholders**

Banco De Oro Unibank, Inc.
Security Bank Corporation — China Banking Corporation
Land Bank of the Philippines — Rizal Commercial Banking Corp
Robinsons Bank Corporation — SPI Asset Management & Trust Group
Maybank Philippines, Inc. — Philippine Veterans Bank

**Issue Manager and Joint Lead Arranger**

INVESTMENT & CAPITAL CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

**Joint Lead Arranger**

BDO
Capital & Investment Corporation

**Co-Lead Arranger**

SB CAPITAL INVESTMENT

**Facility Agent**

SECURITY BANK
Trust Division

**18 April 2011**

# Stocks seen to consolidate

From page B1

AB Capital Securities said the PSEi's failure to break out of its major resistance at around the 4,540 level suggested investors' disappointment over first quarter corporate results.

"Notwithstanding, investors are not rushing to the exits as they realize that last week's performance was quite oversold[ly] and difficult to duplicate. Moreover, the market continues to benefit from the extension liquidity in the system due to the prevailing low interest rate environment globally," AB Capital Securities said. — Lenn C. Dumlao

# Privatization of SCTEx . . .

From page B1

for the remainder of the contract, the BCDA would have a 20 percent share in all revenues from the road.

Pangilinan said MRTC was now in talks with the current BCDA management, headed by newly-appointed Rolando Peñaloza, on how to resolve the issues raised by the agency's outgoing leadership.

For MRTC, Pangilinan said the provisions of the original deal should be retained.

"We're leaving it to the BCDA, but we think contracts with private companies should be honored, especially if the fairness of the government's economic program is the PPP program," he said. "The government has to honor its contract."

Pangilinan said the company has considered just walking away from the project as a result of the issues.

"But we consider ourselves as the 'sure-bet' investor for the country," he said, noting that the group's interest in many government projects gave other investors the confidence to make bets on the Philippines.

"I was decided to get out, the administration's PPP program will not look good to the (international community)," he pointed out.

# BUSINESS

## Economists see 5% GDP growth in Q1

### Gov't still hopeful of higher expansion

By Gaea T. Cabacungan

ECONOMISTS FORECAST moderate growth for the Philippine economy in the first three months of 2011 despite coming off a high growth base in the first quarter of 2010, which enjoyed recovery in exports from 2009 and a boost from election spending.

Economic Planning Secretary Cayetano W. Paderanga Jr. said in an interview that he was hopeful for as much as 6 percent economic expansion in terms of gross domestic product (GDP), banking on growth momentum before any disruption that would have been due to the earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan in mid-March.

Forecasts from economists asked by the Inquirer averaged about 5 percent.

"A growth of around 5 percent would be reasonable but we're still hoping for 5.5 to 6 percent. We're hoping reforms and fiscal discipline have started taking effect. Also, with 5.5- to 6-percent growth, there would be less to make up for in the next three quarters," Paderanga said.

What is more important, he said, was that growth should be sustained going forward.

Paderanga said that even with just a little growth in a short cycle across the agriculture, the economy would still make that up in the coming quarters. If it was manufacturing or the services-driven exports side, that might be a short-term impact of the disruption due to the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, he said.

"We have to see where the growth is so that we will know how far we need to go to still attain the full-year growth target," Paderanga said. The government is set to announce the country's first quarter GDP growth figures on May 30.

The Philippine economy boomed with a 7.3-percent growth in the first quarter of 2010 from a year base of 0.6 percent in the same period of the previous year, according to the National Statistical Coordination Board.

Benjamin Diokno, former budget secretary and an economics professor at the University of the Philippines, forecast a GDP growth of "between 4.5 to 4.9 percent" for the first quarter of 2011.

The services sector is still seen as a major growth driver, coupled with a single-digit growth for manufacturing and a 4.3 percent growth in agriculture that was already reported by the Department of Agriculture.

## Dell presses gov't to invest more funds in infotech

By Paolo G. Montecillo

GOVERNMENTS IN emerging markets like the Philippines have underinvested in information technology (IT) equipment, resulting in inefficient state agencies that are unable to keep up with the ever-growing demands of their constituencies.

But with the recent drive to be more efficient and accountable, policy makers are starting to see the value of IT, ES-based technology giant Dell said.

"Governments now need to be more efficient. Their line just hasn't been enough investment in increasing government services in the past few years," Dell South Asia managing director Andreas Diamiros said at a recent briefing.

The result of the chronic underinvestment in IT was poor record-keeping in almost all government agencies, where processes end up unhappy (when paperless).

Another problem Dell is looking to help governments resolve is the presence of "silos," or isolated pockets of data that each agency maintains on its own instead of having information in a single data base that can be accessed anytime, anywhere and from any part of the country.

"There are a lot of inefficiencies," Diamiros said, adding that a significant portion of the little money that was invested only serves to waste.

He said the public sector was currently one of the company's biggest areas for growth in Asia-Pacific countries like the Philippines.

"Public service to the people used to be a 'luxury' on many occasions," he said. "Because, officials cannot be corrupted it."

"We're getting a lot of interest from many agencies and local government units as well," he said.

The public sector segment of Dell's local business, which is handled with its enterprise segment, is expected to grow as much as 62 percent this year.

To do this, the company said it would set up its first marketing offices in both Visayas and Mindanao areas to capitalize on the aggressive growth seen in the areas outside of Metro Manila.

## 5 power firms get DOE certificates

By Amy R. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Energy has granted five companies with certificates of endorsement, a requirement for the operation of existing or newly built power generation facilities.

Documents from the DOE showed that as of end-March this year, it awarded COEs to Team Asia Oil and Energy Development Corp., Unioil Resources Corp., Udenna Corp., Hacienda Bio-Energy and Petron Corp.

Team Asia Oil needed the COE for its proposed 135-megawatt coal-fired power plant in Calaca, Batangas. The clean coal power facility, which would be Team Asia Oil's first base-load plant to support its electricity supply business, was earlier estimated to cost P8.3 billion and is targeted to be completed by 2014.

Unioil Resources will need the COE for its 11.2-MW biomass facility in Quezon province. Power produced from the power plant, which was earlier estimated to cost around P36 million, will be provided for the requirements of Quezon Electric Cooperative (Queselco).

Udenna, the holding company of Phoenix Petroleum Holdings Inc. and Udenna Management and Resources Corp., is managing the existing 116-MW diesel-fired power plant located at the Subic Gateway Center within the Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

This diesel power plant started commercial operations in January 1993 under a build-operate-and-transfer (BOT) project agreement with Enron Power Philippines Corp. and the state-owned National Power Corp. (Napocor).

Enron first transferred ownership of the facility to Mirant Philippines Ventures, which earlier bid out the management of the facility to Udenna over the bidding and is now the new operator of the diesel facility, which can be started any time to contribute additional capacity to the grid.

DOE documents also showed that the COE of its coal-fired facility would be used for its 125-kilowatt biomass facility in Bukidnon.

As for Petron, its planned P13-billion, 70-MW fuel-fired facility within the company's refinery compound in Limay, Bataan, is expected to improve the reliability, soaring flexibility and cost efficiency of the refinery to meet Petron's growing steam and power requirements. The facility is expected to start running by 2012.

The use of its own power plant was also expected to generate P1 billion in savings a year for Petron.

Let's Go Wireless
Hylex
Wireless Audio Active System

MONDAY, MAY 23, 2011
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
2nd of 4
B1
BUSINESS

TURNOVER ON DEC. 2011
Invest only in the BEST Location!
Located at ST. FRANCIS SQUARE
Between SM Megamall & The Podium
B&A Twin Towers
FOR INQUIRIES 638-2268/632-1010
SFSDC

# Gov't shelves seismic survey on Spratlys area

By Amy R. Remo

## DOE exec says discussion among claimants needed

THE DEPARTMENT of Energy (DOE) is no longer keen on pushing through with a proposed seismic survey over the Reed Bank and the disputed areas in the Kalayaan Island Group as the project continues to remain on hold, according to Energy Secretary Jose Rene D. Almendras.

Almendras was referring to the proposed 2D seismic acquisition and processing over the area.

The energy chief debunked in the Department of Foreign Affairs, explaining that since the P75-million seismic survey committed was first envisioned and planned by neighboring countries, discussions should be within the foreign affairs level.

The DOE, under the Aquino administration, wanted to pursue the planned data acquisition within the first quarter of 2011, under the "Philippine National Continental Shelf Delimitation project." The energy department had then envisaged that the seismic data to be acquired would be submitted to the United Nations Government on the law of the Sea (Unlos).

The data would supposedly help define the country's 350-mile Extended Continental Shelf (ECS), where much of the valuable resources are located. The Reed Bank alone is estimated to contain at least 5.6 trillion cubic feet of gas and potentially 440 million barrels of oil.

By December 2009, the DOE had shortlisted four international contractors to undertake a 2D seismic acquisition and processing, namely the Singapore-based PGS Asia Pacific; CGG Veritas, Norway-based Fugro Geo Team AS, and United Kingdom's Geokinetic Overseas Ltd.

"The seismic, gravity and magnetics data shall be owned solely by the DOE, archived at the DOE and be for the exclusive use of the Philippine ECS project. All data shall not be made available for licensing to oil and gas exploration and production companies," the DOE stressed.

Parts of the Reed Bank and Kalayaan Island Group were earlier studied under the controversial Joint Marine Seismic Undertaking (JMSU), an agreement that the Philippines had signed with China and Vietnam to search for oil in the Spratlys.

The tripartite JMSU, which took effect in 2005 and expired in 2008, was only intended to find out how much oil and other resources lie at the bottom of the disputed islands.

Almendras added that there were no plans of reviving the JMSU.

**Power Situation Outlook**
for Monday, 23 May 2011

| | Luzon | Visayas | Mindanao |
|---|---|---|---|
| Forecast Capacity (MW) | 8,246 | 1,660 | 1,342 |
| Forecast Peak (MW) | 7,344 | 1,204 | 1,187 |
| Gross Reserves (MW) | 1,042 | 201 | 155 |

On May 27-29, let the stars steer you towards your dreams.
Catch your star in our showrooms Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
125! years of innovation
Mercedes-Benz
The best or nothing.
Mercedes-Benz Global City 815.7777 0920.9066474 Mercedes-Benz Greenhills 723 0000 0920.9066472 www.mercedes-benz.com.ph

NEO
Everything you need made amazingly affordable!
B5700 N
B5100 N
Visibly Smart
Life at the very CORE.
Limitless
www.neo.com.ph

# Villar group readies retail store network expansion

## Offers franchise to overseas Filipino workers

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE VILLAR group plans an aggressive expansion into the retailing business by setting up a 150-branch network of convenience stores within the next seven years, partly by franchising the brand to enterprising overseas Filipinos/workers.

Fresh Convenience Stores Inc. (FCS) was initially conceptualized to complement the villages and subdivisions developed by Vista Land, nationwide and to serve the daily needs of its residents. Since its establishment in 2008, FCS now has 25 stores located within Vista Land's thriving communities.

In a press conference, FCS chief operating officer Wilfredo Castanilla — an industry veteran with a solid track record in convenience store set-up, operations and management — said the expansion program would boost sales to the P1-billion mark by next year when it would have opened 100 stores.

"The next 50 stores will be opened to franchisees. In fact, the retail group is already taking partnership agreements," Castanilla said.

FCS intends to open the next 50 stores by year's end and then launch 100 more stores in the next two years, he added.

The Villar-owned retailing network seeks to make quality products and real, as-added services more accessible to consumers by establishing stores that are conveniently located in every Filipino community. The chain has adopted global standards with the use of a supply chain management system that allows it to restock rapidly to ensure that goods on its shelves are fresh and of the best quality. FCS has also put up an all-brew dining concept, which offers all-day breakfast meals and ready-to-go meals.

"Fresh C-Store is set up as a convenience-based outlet, primarily catering the needs of homeowners. More than anyone else, Fresh is positioned to assist enterprising OFWs and their families back home set up a business they can fall back on," Castanilla said.

"We want to help OFWs bring home the fruits of their hard labor overseas and utilize it for nourishing tangible and productive for them, the affordable, franchising fees, as well as the flexibility as we put to fore the possible needs of our future franchisees," he added.

In the franchise setup, the franchisee and the company become partners and share their investments. A flexible profit (and loss) sharing scheme is also available. FCS's potential franchisees can choose from three store models: Community (100 square meters), Express (50 sq.m.) and Express Jr. (35 sq.m.).

Potential franchisees are allowed to choose their store location and determine the store's operating hours, but as long as it meets its required minimum operating hours. This allows the franchisee to make the most out of store operations during the peak hours and serve its customers each hour.

# Eton to build hotel in QC CBD

THE 800-ROOM Sheraton Hotel Eton Properties Philippines seeks to fast-track progress in its 12-hectare Quezon City township development Eton Centris by building a 250-room business/tourist hotel alongside the first luxury residential project in the area.

Eton president Danilo Ignacio also announced that the first of three state-of-the-art towers of upscale condominiums Ascott would soon rise in Eton Centris, which is being groomed to be the gateway to an upcoming 10-ungle Park central business district (CBD). "Several prominent residents, a luxurious lifestyle in an exceptional location. The project marketing launching demand for a strategically located address in Quezon City," Ignacio said.

The property firm also plans to expand into the hotel business and is now in talks with a Singaporean group to manage the forthcoming boutique hotel in Eton Centris. "We're also in discussion for another possible hotel in Makati and another one in Ortigas," Ignacio said.

The upcoming Sheraton Hotel in Centris is part of the master plan for the two-chip project, one of the newest commercial hubs in Quezon City.

Taking advantage of the robust property market, Eton also has started selling upscale residential units in the first tower of Ascott. This building will have 2200 units standing from 25-square-meter studio units.

Targeting young upwardly mobile professionals, newlyweds and early starters, Ascott will also feature one, two and three-bedroom units. The studio units go for P2.9 million for the one-bedroom units, P3.7 million for the two-bedroom units and P4.2 million for the three-bedroom units.

Triangle Park CBD is envisioned to be the next major central business district in Metro Manila, similar to what Ortigas Center is to Pasig City and Makati City or what the Makati CBD is to Makati City.

Potential residents in Ascott are assured of easy accessibility and convenience of the density living spaces, Eton officials said. A typical floor in the building's low zone has a maximum of only 16 units. The building's upper zone houses only six units, thus ensuring the expansive living spaces.

Ascott will have a sister condominium across it, called Kensington, an iconic glass facade and spacious common areas. It will have five-story Sky Gardens intended to give residents a green oasis amidst the towers. The Sky Gardens are seen providing a flourishing green statement of greenery with spacious gardens and sweeping open spaces amid towering vistas of the metropolis.

Eton Centris is located in the corner of major thoroughfares Edsa and Quezon Avenue. It is also directly connected to the Edsa-Quezon Avenue MRT-3 station. Doris C. Dumlao

# PLDT to tap OFWs in overseas expansion

By Paola E. Mamaradlo

SUBIC BOND — Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) is looking to expand its business abroad by reaching out to the millions of Filipinos working overseas and giving them the chance to stay in touch with relatives at home.

PLDT's international marketing arm PLDT Global Corp. said it planned to increase the group's overseas subscriber base by as much as five-fold before the year ends.

"The main objective is to get the Filipinos abroad. We want them to be our subscribers," PLDT Global CEO Alan Chargualaf said.

He said PLDT Global was working on setting up new mobile virtual network operator (MVNO) contracts with telecommunications companies to maximize the the United States, Saudi Arabia and other OFW "hot spots."

PLDT Global's MVNO agreements in Hong Kong and Singapore have allowed the group to offer call and text services, designed for Filipinos, using the network assets of its foreign partners.

PrePaid, the SIM cards, which are re-branded as iFLOY products, are sold here in the Philippines are able to make calls and text messages to their OFW friends and relatives at regular, non-roaming charges rates.

OFWs making calls to the Philippines, however, still pay the rates charged in the country where they are.

These services are designed mainly to make it more affordable for OFWs to stay in touch with relatives at home. The company said it expected to sign two new MVNO deals this year.

Its key targets are Taipei, Macau, Croatia, Malaysia, the UK and Saudi Arabia.

PLDT added "no 100,000 subscribers in Hong Kong and Singapore. "We can get an additional 300,000 to 400,000 in new markets," Craig Ng, PLDT Vice-President for Singapore, in a briefing here.

**No timeframe, setting up MVNO services in the US will give PLDT access to the 3.5 million Filipinos residing there. Having two more setup in Saudi Arabia will also give PLDT the chance to reach a significant portion of the 1.5 million Filipinos in the Middle East.**

The company said the international business was one of the most profitable areas of the PLDT group's business in terms of average revenue per user.

# Manifesto ON THE NECESSITY OF AN ANTITRUST LAW

We, a group of lawyers sharing a common vision, have decided to make our concerns known to the public.

For years we have been discussing whether there is sufficient legislation protecting free competition in the Philippines. While the Constitution provides for regulation of monopolies as public interest requires, and prohibits combinations in restraint of trade, such are merely expressions of the national policy. There is no specific antitrust law to regulate, prevent and prohibit actions in restraint of trade and creation of monopolies.

The recent development involving the acquisition of Digitel Telecommunications, Philippines, Inc. (Digitel) by the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT), has brought to fore our concerns regarding the need for antitrust legislation. On 23 May 2011, the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) will hold a public hearing on whether or not to approve the PLDT-Digitel deal, which may result in the latter controlling 70% of the cellular mobile service market.

This is effectively a monopoly. If this can happen in the telecoms industry, this can also happen in other vital industries, and thereby impede the country's growth.

We support the directive of President Aquino to the Department of Justice and the NTC to investigate the deal and study its impact on the market, and we enjoin the public to participate in this movement in order to guarantee free market competitiveness, the power of choice, fairness and the rule of law.

There have been antitrust bills filed in the past, or still pending, such as House Bill No. 271, the Antitrust Act of 1998 by Cong. Roilo Golez, and Senate Bill No. 123, the Philippine Antitrust Act introduced by Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile in 2007. Yet, none have been enacted into law.

**We, therefore, call on regulators and legislators to ensure that the Filipino consumer is protected from entities that aim to dominate and control markets.**

Benedict A. Litonjua | Francis C. Aguilar | Gabriel B. Corpus | Jose Mi. Rolando A. Sobe

Maria Lourdes D. Magno | Marie Concepcion A. Montecer | Antonio Carlos B. Bautista | Rizal Antonio D. Mora

Rolando N. Delfin | Miguelito Nazareno V. Llarenas

**YOUNG LAWYERS IN SUPPORT OF ANTITRUST LAW**

www.antitrustlawcenter.blogspot.com

# BUSINESS

## Local auto industry may recover earlier than expected

By Amy R. Remo

THE WOMAN in charge of Universal Motors Corp. (UMC), the country's largest and oldest wholly Filipino-owned assembler and distributor of light commercial vehicles, believes that the local auto industry will recover from the fallout of the disasters in Japan earlier than expected.

Elizabeth Lee, chief operating officer of UMC and head of the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc. (Campi), said that although the industry has already begun feeling the impact of the twin disasters in Japan, Philippine vehicle assemblers would be in a position later this year to pick up and recover lost sales.

Lee was confident that UMC itself could even grow by up to 5 percent this year.

The full effects of the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan are only now being felt locally where plants have been scaling down operations temporarily due to supply problems. But this development may only be temporary, Lee said, who admitted that even UMC had to slightly reduce operations.

"Everybody had scaled down [their operations]. We have to optimize and schedule our production. We're going to feel [the full brunt of the disasters] this May and June," Lee said on the sidelines of UMC's 5th anniversary celebration of Nissan Urvan's "UR van, UR business" program.

Although vehicle demand currently outpaces supply, Lee is confident that, as far as UMC is concerned, operations will begin to normalize as early as July.

"We're looking to recover sales in the latter part of the year. Sales will really pick up by then," Lee said.

This is the reason why UMC has not decided on downgrade its growth projections at this point, she added.

HOMIES Of the executive committee of the 22nd Philippine Advertising Congress whoop it up during the media launch held last weekend at the Marina Beach Wet'N'Dry Pasay City. At extreme right is Sandy Prieto-Romualdez of the Philippine Daily Inquirer. BY EDDIE PUNZALAN

## PH ready for advanced mobile finance services

CHINABANK Savings

NOTICE OF REGULAR ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

By Michelle V. Remo

THE PHILIPPINES, says to non-savvy population, has been described as "highly ready" for further advancements in the field of mobile financial services, according to international surveys.

"The Philippines has explored the implementation of mobile financial services for a relatively long time and has realized high levels of adoption in a wide array of available services," said the World Economic Forum in its survey entitled, "Mobile Financial Services: Development Report."

The survey recognizes the Philippines for its neutral to above-average performance in key aspects of mobile service development, such as regulatory environment and market environments, regulatory proportionality, consumer protection, market competitiveness, market catalysts, end-user empowerment and access, distribution and agent network, and adoption and availability.

The World Economic Forum study involved 20 developing countries, including Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Nigeria, Colombia, Ghana, and Afghanistan. Haiti, China, Bangladesh, Uganda, Argentina, and Tanzania.

Apart from the Philippines, five other countries were recognized to be strong both in their market and institutional environments—Brazil, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, and South Africa.

Market environments encompass the level of activeness of the private sector in pursuing mobile financial services, institutional environments covers the role of government in promoting such services.

"In the Philippines, an important role is played by the government, which has shown commendable leadership in using mobile services to distribute social payments and collect taxes," the survey said.

Also, more and more citizens are using mobile phones, particularly e-wallets, in making purchases.

## Vengeance is mining (part II)

BREAKTIME

Ceferino S. Bernal III

THE AQUINO (Noy) III administration, featuring our leader Benigno Simeon (a.k.a. PSI...rebo) is to do something about the scandalous Philsaco case.

The case involves the 25,000-hectare Surigao Mineral Reservation in Mindanao. Some 15 years ago, during the time of Fidel Valdez (former President Fidel V. Ramos), the government sold the mining license in the reservation to a company, Philsaco, for $294 million plus P74.5 million.

Up to now, the government has not received a single centavo in payment. Meanwhile, mining companies—all subcontracted by Philsaco—reportedly are feasting on the rich mineral reservation (Inquirer, May 16, 2011).

Just to give you an idea of what kind of fortune is being done there, a mining firm called Hinatuan Mining owned by billionaire "Buddy" Zamora II, whose group also sponsored the Rio Tuba nickel site in Bataraan, posted some P32 billion in net profit in the last six years.

The poor taxpayers, on the other hand, shouldered the P63 billion in Philsaco debt, which were absorbed by the government.

It seems that such colossal mining activity could not bother our beloved BS. Pesin when I gathered, earlier on in the Aquino (Noy) III administration, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources proposed to BS that an executive order (EO) be issued to lower—had "effective tailings," which are those large piles of leftover crushed rocks in mines, belong to the state.

The tailings actually still contain minerals. Lured mining companies still expect them.

But once the EO takes effect, Hinatuan Mining and the other raiders in the 25,000-hectare Surigao reservation can no longer sell the tailings to their buyers in China.

Answering to our sources in the mining sector, DENR Secretary Ramon Paje himself has been pushing for the EO for several months now, even stating it for open discussion during Cabinet meetings. But no dice. The proposed EO remains that—a proposal.

While the proposal is gathering dust somewhere in the Office of the President, there's talk going around in business that, instead, somebody in the Palace is suppressing the issuance of the order, probably hoping it from BS.

But there is one disturbing fact in this whole scandalous affair. Paje has been pushing for the EO in Cabinet meetings. I suppose that BS attends them. Or not?

Anyway, the same DAT Lite is, "no action taken") became the topic of whispers in mining circles concerning the Privatization and Management Office (PMO) and the Department of Finance (DOF).

The PMO, which is under the DOF, is simply the new name of the infamous Asset Privatization Trust (APT), which handled the sale of assets (i.e., companies) turned over to the government, becoming the government head to shoulder their huge debts of billions upon billions of pesos, which we are paying for with our taxes (one of them was Nonoc Mining, owner of the 23,000-hectare Surigao mine, which went to Hinatuan).

From what I gathered, PMO Jose Raven Maquiso, one of the reported figures in the Aquino (Noy) III administration, being a Wall Street-type Harvard-schooled economist, sent a memo to her boss, Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima.

In effect, Maquiso was asking the DOF to take drastic steps to protect the government's interest [i.e., our tax money] in the problematic Philsaco privatization. One possibility was for the government to cancel the mineral production sharing agreement (MPSA) for the Surigao reservation.

The MPSA is like a license issued by the government to operate the mine. It was actually the MPSA that the old APT, in "sold" to Philsaco—minus the payment, of course.

Thus the cancellation of the MPSA in effect would stop the raid of the rich Surigao mineral reserves. After all, the DENR was used to closing down mines for all sorts of reasons. Just recently, for instance, the DENR closed down mining operations in Zamboanga del Sur, despite the protests of security personnel from a group reportedly owned by former Senator Sonny Alvarez (Philippine Star, May 19, 2011).

The Maquiso memo is probably also gathering dust at the DOF. After all, the PMO was only trying to smooth out for the government's interest.

Hey, from what I gathered, the PMO is still spending your tax money in the tune of P600,000 a month, for security personnel at the—you will never believe it—Philsaco operated mine sites in Surigao.

Here is the situation: The government already did not get back some P1.2 billion in debt in connection with the Philsaco mine. Plus, it did not get the payment for the MPSA it sold to receive the unpaid debt. Worse of all, it is still spending a lot of money for some useless security arrangements. Look, it would not stop the shipment of minerals from out of the reservation.

Word goes around that there are at least four groups operating the 25,000-hectare reservation, for instance, offtake figures from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau and the Bureau of Customs showed that a company called Hinatuan Mining last year undertook 13 shipments out of the country, possible to China. Total shipment for the year reached more than 600,000 metric tons, estimated at more than P600 million.

Well, the case of Bradley is nothing compared to the luckiest of them all, the one and only Mr. Benigno Simeon. In 2001, it appeared to the SEC a deficit of P50 million. In financial statements, after it vaulted the Surigao mineral reservation, showed profit of between P12 and P15 billion in the past seven years.

What is stopping the Aquino (Noy) III administration from doing something about this?

In running, the operators always say, the high yield depends because of low operating cost, and thus the highest possible income. Such must be the case at the Surigao reservation. It would be stupid of anybody, including anyone in the Palace, to think that the operators in the reservation would die down.

Time is running out. Or better yet, the mineral deposits are running out.

SAP Business One
Powered by
ABM

MONDAY, MAY 23, 2011
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
3rd of 4
B9

BUSINESS

Perfect for copiers & printers
HARD COPY

# Landbank ramps up lending to agri sector

## Loans to priority sectors rose 23% in 1st quarter as GFI widens countryside reach

By Riza T. Olchondra

LOANS EXTENDED by the Land Bank of the Philippines to its so-called priority sectors increased during the first quarter as the government financial institution ramped up its lending efforts to countrymen.

In a press statement, Landbank said that loans to its priority sectors reached P146.8 billion as of end-March 2011.

That was 22.8 percent or P39.9 billion higher than the P106.9 billion recorded in the same period last year.

Loans to priority sectors now comprise 68 percent of the bank's total regular loan portfolio of P220.6 billion.

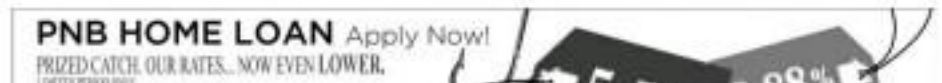
The priority sectors of Landbank are the small farmers and fisherfolk, micro- and small and medium enterprises, livelihood, agribusiness, agri-infrastructure, agri-related projects, countryside-related projects, socialized housing, schools and hospitals.

"The sustained improvement in the bank's loan portfolio for its priority sectors attests to our commitment to intensify support to key players and partners in countryside development," Landbank president and CEO Gilda Pineda said.

"The expansion in loans is indicative of the bank's wider credit outreach and the improvement in rural economic conditions," she said.

Outstanding loans to small farmers and fisherfolk grew to P61.3 billion as of the first quarter from P56.9 billion last year.

Loans for agribusiness likewise increased to P23.4 billion from P20.1 billion.



E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inquirer.net/business

# BUSINESS Monday

## Work-life programs and organizational commitment

By Elaine Soloman
Contributor

"WE WORK to live not live to work" has been a popular phrase for employees who try to balance priorities in life. This means juggling work demands and nonwork priorities as well as considering work-life features when choosing a career and company to work for.

Finding harmony between the professional (work-related concerns) and personal (nonwork related concerns) life is at the core of an employee's work-life dilemma. It is common to find employees struggling to accomplish their work goals while maintaining job satisfaction and good health plus a happy family or social life.

The need to work longer hours, get an extra job to compensate for financial needs, having inadequate or incompatible organization benefits package, lack of reliable child and caregiving support, household responsibilities are just a few examples of how and why employees experience work-life dilemma.

### Work-life initiatives

In the search for work-life balance (or harmony) sometimes, employees tend to look at opportunities that organizations can and will provide. Policies and interventions that aim to respond to employees' work-life dilemmas are called work-life initiatives. Organizations are encouraged to provide interventions that will increase work-nonwork awareness and encourage better interpersonal relationships (Berta and Ishio, 2000).

Examples of these initiatives are values formation workshops, coaching and counseling programs and working in teams.

Studies showed that work-life initiatives are just enhance job performance but can create commitment and consequently decrease employee turnover. Organizational commitment is described as having strong adherence with the goals and values of the company, willingness to exert effort to achieve organizational success, and having a strong desire to stay in the organization.

### The study

One of the researcher done on work-life initiatives was conducted by Jay Ramos. He surveyed 240 Filipino employees to determine the relationships between employee attitudes toward their work-life initiatives and their commitment to the organization.

It was found that employees were generally satisfied with their organization's work-life programs as evidenced in their positive perception of their respective company's retirement plan, home plan, healthcare and insurance plan.

Among the list of work life policies surveyed, results also showed that the following are most likely to affect organizational commitment: travel expense reimbursement, club membership, spot bonusing, training programs, sports activities, compensation, car loan, gym and aerobics classes, social outreach programs, employee clubs, vacation houses, company sponsored party and stress in the workplace program.

Studies support the positive relationship of work life policies and organizational commitment. It also showed that employees' attitude on work life programs and organizational commitment responds to three levels of need: (1) security, (2) social interaction or belongingness, (3) prestige and personal growth. Consequently, satisfaction with work life initiatives lessens the tendency of employees to leave the organization.

### Implications: Aligning work life programs to employee needs

Aligning organizational work-life programs and interventions to employee needs and preferences is of great importance. Investing effort to look at the demographics and considering employees' profile should be a critical step in designing policies and programs.

For example, if the organization has more women employees, work-life policies that responds to issues of maternity should be considered or money would be prioritized. However, to enhance fit between the individual needs of employees and work life initiatives, the organization may opt to offer a flexible benefits program where employees are empowered to choose benefits that suit their individual needs and preferences.

Building a culture that values work life balance, a company may consider building and nurturing an organization culture that values work life balance. With this, the leaders would play an important role in establishing a work life culture in the workplace.

Systems and processes must be aligned and leaders must model the behaviors that are consistent with and supportive of this kind of culture.

### Evaluating work-life programs

The effectiveness of work life programs is best measured through periodic evaluations. Through these, organizations may see changes in the needs and preferences of employees and identify needed improvements.

*(The author is the Program Officer for Research at Bantay-OFW. She is graduate student under the Master in Counseling Psychology program at the Ateneo de Manila University. The article is based on the thesis of Jay Ramos, a graduate of the MA in Industrial Organization at Psychology program of the same University. For feedback about this article, please e-mail elainesoloman@yahoo.com.ph or call us at 4266005 local 6)*

**WORKPLACE WISDOM**

# How are you as a manager?

## Personality, character flaws turn off employees

By Lito Bertelgan-Alvarez
Contributor

THE SAYING "employees don't quit companies, they quit managers" few bosses learned the hard way by many managers and corporate leaders who have discovered the blind spots in their management style owing chiefly to personality or character flaws.

In an article written for Inkwire Consultants Network, Kristie Lorraine Arriagado says bosses may be classified as "enthusiastic," "bubbles," "manipulators" or "organizers."

She says "enthusiastic" managers are always hovering over you and making sure you do the job the way they want. "This personality can be very pushy—they may not give you proper recognition for your work or they take all of the credit for the work the employee do. So a worker should not expect to get raises or climb up the corporate ladder while he/she is working for this type of manager," she says. "These managers would need more administrative employees."

### Buddies and manipulators

"Buddy" managers, on the other hand, want to be their employees' friends. "They make their employees feel important," says Arriagado. The downside is that these managers have the tendency to have an affair with their employees. "They get the employees' personal information and use it against them," she says. "They may talk to you about their personal issues and ask your advice about their problems. Being friendly with your boss is not always a bad thing, but when it feels like the employees are making all the load for the boss, it's not healthy. If you are a hard worker, avoid this type of boss at all costs."

Arriagado says "Manipulators" are dictatorships. "Managers who use this category are able to use psychology to their advantage by using employees' emotions to their favor. They may make you feel like you are doing a disservice to the company if you don't do something for them," she says. "They get the employees to act on the duty work for them, otherwise, they will make the life of their employees very difficult."

### "Organizers"

The "organizer" type of management personality is a great planner, Arriagado says. "Managers with this personality usually know what is going on with every piece of work in front of his. They have excellent memory and can affirm remember names and dates. They are usually very intelligent and help out to provide robust models," she adds. "They are usually very fair and are well respected by their workers. In fact, workers feel very comfortable coming to them. This type of managers can usually work with any type of personality because they are less attentive themselves."

### "Evaluators," "chaos makers"

Ann Bettinay, a management expert, on the other hand, has other classifications of management styles. In her article "The Management Styles that Hurt Employee Morale," written for the online Yahoo content website, she says of leaders who are "evaluators," Jekyll-the-bully bosses or late Gloria Steinem-Legs.

"These possessions have been raised in the wasteful, unsustainable promise of limitless growth where bigger, faster, stronger is equal to better," she says, referring to the economic managers who factor on promoting these selves at the expense of their employees.

Bettinay says the "evaluator" types of managers maintain an air of superiority. "Their modus operandi is to constantly scrutinize and demand changes to the achievements of others. They use their influence to prevent the establishment of achievable and consistent standards so they can continue to make the rules," she says. "Employees don't feel motivated to challenge tasks because they anticipate rejection and any experience but of self-confidence. Once this happens, they will seek opportunities elsewhere where their efforts are appreciated," she says.

Managers, says Bettinay, can also be "chaos makers" whose leadership style does not respect employee commitment. "They drop urgent 'projects' on their employees' desks. Prioritization is not accomplished by making everything that passes through their fields of vision the most important thing. Since only they can fix the problems they created in the first place, their important role in the company as a go-to person is kept secure," she says.

### Ego trippers, control freaks

Then there are those managers whose insecure management style is all about their ego. "Maintaining an image is all-consuming for these managers. They are more interested in having books on their shelves that they don't actually read, but like others to think they do. They will be consistently late or absent for appointments to cultivate an image of being too essential to the operations," Bettinay says.

Then there are managers who buttress their "controllers" or "control freaks." Bettinay says they micromanage their employees and create an environment of distrust. "These managers are obsessed with staying on top of everything. They demand approvals, and verify that actions related to projects are completed as directed. They may keep a favored individual near them as a right hand for information. Because no crack of their floor and time is spent on small details, it is difficult to follow through on long-term business initiatives that require 'big picture' thinking," she says.

# Manpower development for agriculture entrepreneurs

(second of two parts)

OF UTMOST immediate concern yet of more important strategic importance is the relaunch for future farmers—children of farmers who either will soon take over the running of their parents' farm. Here we have to rely on the formal educational system to deliver this service. It starts with the premise of good basic education (up to at least high school) so that we build on the capacity of our youth for the challenges of the future.

### Family Farm Schools

On this point, I would like to highlight a distinctive agricultural education model called the Family Farm Schools.

The Family Farm Schools is an educational institution offering secondary and post-secondary level of education where qualified and deserving children of Filipino farmers are taught and trained with their parents' help in theoretical and practical methods so as to instill in them high human, social, and moral values and the right sense of productivity for the performance of work.

The professional formation required in the Family Farm School prepares students to provide a profession in farming coupled with a technical and an entrepreneurial training that will hopefully plant the seed for a strong agricultural economy.

Unique to the family farm school system is the alternating cycle of education where students spend a week in a "free in-class" at the school and two weeks in their family farm.

This system facilitates the learning process by not only confining it within the four walls of the classroom but allows the youth to learn through their continuous and direct contact with reality thus avoiding the artificial and alienating atmosphere in their environment.

While at the family farm, the students analyze these experiences and place them all in On Family Farm Notebook that will later be reviewed by the teachers and the students in a one-on-one learning session. The alternating cycle also affords parents to participate actively in the education and formation of their children.

Since the family farm school visit each family in each of the alternating cycles and help both parents and child to think together the improvement of their farm as well as to help them have deep family ties through the humanizing process.

The curriculum of the FFS applies the principle of the Dual Training System. The FFS is one of the pioneers in the Philippines to apply it to agriculture education. One consideration that our policymakers would consider is to incorporate the FFS type of education for those in the rural areas since this is more appropriate for them than the present compartmentalized high schools.

There are some more than 2,500 FFS all over the world, in Europe, Africa, South and South America, Africa and

Asia.

### Farm Business Schools

College-level agriculture programs have been assessed in the country for over a century yet there is very little mention of how to help the children of farmers. Today, agriculture is one of the last courses a farmer would like his son to take (if at all he gets a chance to go to college) because they say, "there is no money in farming."

The fact is reflected in the number of students enrolled in agriculture courses over the past 30 years. Agriculture's share of the whole student population has been declining and will continue to do so. As a result, agriculture schools in the country are soon to join the list of endangered species if nothing is done about it.

Fortunately the Management Association of the Philippines initiated a project as early as 2004 called the Farm Business School. It is a school dedicated and focused on training farm managers and farm entrepreneurs. The degree that will be offered (made to a Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship with concentration major in Farm Business) is offered as a laddered program that can award a diploma after three years (under TESDA) and a Bachelor's degree after an additional year (under CHED).

Why a ladderized program? The first three years will make use of the Dual Training System (that has been proven to be a success) because a bias of the current farmers' children's background on internship component. Students will go through a work-study program. The work-component will be done in school through the various farm enterprises that would be used as laboratories for students to learn the ABCs of running a farm business.

After three years, only select students will be invited to go through the fourth year to earn their bachelor's degree.

The farm is intended as an enterprise that will be set up to serve as practicum venues for students of the program will also be the answer for many schools today to generate their own revenues. Some of the faculty members of the Farm Business School will be designated managers of the farm enterprises that will be operated as "strategic business units."

We now have a working model of this type of school. The FFS Foundation is the first to implement this concept. In 1981, it partnered with the University of Rizal System to award the bachelor's degree under its College of Business. This is via affiliation where you send rather than the program is set up as agriculture course but a business course.

One may ask, what are the chances of success of this program considering that this is something new?

It may sound new but the key elements of the program design have been drawn from two successful "experiments": 1) the Dual Training System that is now institutionalized in the Philippines and (2) UMAP's (University Mindanao Agro-entrepreneurial Management that has already produced a good crop of entrepreneurs.

The first farm business school in Isla-Isla, Real, is now in its second year of operations with close to 70 students under its flagship of Science in Entrepreneurial Management major in Horticulture and the Diploma in Agriculture Entrepreneurship. It still remains to be seen if at all classes will turn out the way they have been trained. We are hoping for big-time graduates.

### Where do we go from here?

The experience shows that training present farmers is still effective in bringing about new technologies and fostering systems to increase farm productivity. On the other hand, training future farmers is an investment we have to do now to address the dwindling number of young people interested in agriculture as a profession.

The Family Farm Schools and Rural Development Schools to date count 11 such schools in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. Mind you, these schools have been established and find themselves doing quite minimal government support.

Even if just a small percentage of the budget of the Department of Agriculture, Education, and TESDA is set aside for the support of the Family Farm Schools and the Farm Business Schools, it will surely make a long way to spark a "new revolution" in the midst of our farmers. This time though, it is of the good type of a revolution.

As a rejoinder to the current discussion on how to implement the 8+1-3 basic education curriculum, policymakers may consider the Family Farm Schools' program discussed earlier as an option to fulfill the additional two years of schooling for those students especially in the rural areas.

There is a Chinese saying that goes like this: "If you plan for a few years grow rice, if you plan for decades grow trees, but if you plan for a century grow men." Education is the best and surest way to emancipate our farmers from the bondage of poverty. And if we invest in agriculture then our economy definitely will have its take-off for a sustained economic growth.

*(The article reflects the personal opinion of the author and does not reflect the official stand of the Management Association of the Philippines. The author is vice chair of the MAP Agribusiness and Countryside Development Committee, and Dean of the MAP Farm Business School. Feedback at mapgatdula@yahoo.com.ph. For previous articles, please visit www.map.org.ph.)*

# Globe renews call for intervention by NTC

## Asks regulator to reduce PLDT-Sun frequencies

By Paolo G. Montecillo

MANILA, 1ST Globe Telecom Inc. has disputed claims that it was network frequencies inefficiently, resulting in the lower quality of services for its subscribers.

The company over the weekend renewed calls for the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) to strip rival Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) of some of its mobile network frequencies once the latter's takeover of Smart Bro Cellular is completed.

Globe legal counsel Rodolfo Salalima said the spectrum frequency assignment must be revisited by the National Telecommunications Commission, informally leaked into, and re-assigned.

This will give smaller players like Globe a chance against PLDT, which, after the deal with Sun's parent Digital Telecommunications Philippines, will control 70 percent of the country's lucrative telecommunications market.

He said having a single player accounting a large part of the industry would reduce competition and slow down innovation. "(Ultimately the public pays) in greatly placed service," he said.

PLDT chair Manuel V. Pangilinan declined to comment on the allegations, saying "It's up to the government to determine what's best for the industry."

The NTC is holding a jurisdictional hearing regarding the deal on Monday.

Globe claims that its frequencies acquired to against PLDT's now slated at a ratio of 1.5:1 in favor of PLDT. This means Globe, with 26.5 million subscribers and 30 megahertz, across 868,000 subscribers with each megahertz, while PLDT's Smart and Digitel's Sun will have only 10,000 subscribers per megahertz.

"Theoretically, Smart and Sun should not be assigned more than 229 Mhz of the spectrum (as against the 372 Mhz after their consolidation) to cater to 60 million subscribers," Globe said.

Globe explained that all things being equal, it can service serve the same number of subscribers with more spectrum from an investment-to-capacity perspective.

Salalima said that, with their spectrum, PLDT-Digitel will be able to serve more customers and deliver more services than Globe.

PLDT earlier said data from the NTC showed that PLDT was more efficient in its use of frequencies, implying that Globe should find ways to be more efficient before it asks the NTC for more frequency allocations.

The PLDT-Digitel deal is scheduled to be completed by the end of June this year.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has approved, in principle, a request by PLDT's to exempted from having to put in reserve the P68.2 worth of PLDT shares that will be paid the Gokongwei group for the majority stake in Digital Telecommunications Philippines Inc.

SEC commission secretary Gerard Lukban said that to protect shareholders of the buyer, the shares to be issued in payment for an acquisition should be held in escrow by the corporate regulator and will be released only upon the transfer of ownership of the property acquired, which in this case involves Digital shares and debt.

# BUSINESS

## Sun Life steps up hybrid policy sales

### Eyes 30% growth in VUL market

By Doris C. Dumlao

LIFE INSURANCE giant Sun Life of Canada has rolled out a new product linked to professionally managed funds, targeting financially sophisticated investors with at least P500,000 to spare to invest.

The new product, called "Sun Maxilink One," is a single-premium variable unit-linked (VUL) insurance policy without front-end charges, which means that the earning potential of the investment is maximized because of lower build-up of funds, Sun Life chief marketing officer Mylene Ang said in an interview.

A VUL insurance policy—a hybrid between traditional life insurance and mutual funds—becomes variable as investment returns are dependent on the market performance of the fund where the premium is invested.

Sun Maxilink One secures the life of the insured with coverage equivalent to at least 125 percent of the single premium, for 125 percent of withdrawals, up to age 100. For policies issued under the guaranteed offer, insurance benefits shall be limited to the fund value plus insurance charges paid in the event of the insured client's demise within the first two years of policy issue date, except if the death is due to an accident.

"This is the only VUL (offered by Sun Life) that has no initial charges," Ang said. "The full single premium is invested right away and if you want to maximize investment, hold it for five years."

The target market for the product is the AB economic segment aged 35 to 50, such as businessmen, entrepreneurs, junior to senior executives and overseas Filipinos. "We're solidifying our hold of the AB market," Ang said, adding this product would be an alternative option for those only keeping their excess funds in fixed-income time deposits or those with maturing pre-need plans.

Bernardo Dominic, head of product management, said the product allows a guaranteed return of up to P15 million without going through the underwriting process. But those aged 61 up to 65 will have to go through the regular underwriting process to include medical examinations.

Clients are given the flexibility of investment options to match their risk appetite. There are three funds to choose from:

- growth fund, which investments mainly in high-quality Philippine stocks;
- income fund, which investments mainly in high-quality fixed income securities issued by the Philippine government and local corporate debt; and
- opportunity fund (balanced fund), which invests in a mix of high-quality debt and equity securities of local issuers.

The product also provides for a "loyalty" bonus, which rewards the insured for keeping the policy active for at least 10 years with a bonus equivalent to 12 percent of the policy's average fund value for the past five years. This loyalty bonus is payable at the end of the 10th year and every five years thereafter as long as the policy is in force.

## Western Union to offer SMEs cheaper payment services

By Dazmin L. Lucas

A GLOBALCAST segment of this country's small and medium enterprises engaged in overseas trade continue to have limited options when it comes to paying for their transactions with foreign counterparts, international fund transfer firm Western Union said yesterday.

As such, these SMEs are forced to use pricey payment services offered by banks—an added cost that is eventually borne by end consumers in the form of more expensive products and services, company officials explained.

"About 99 percent of the importers we have in the country are SMEs," said Pedrito Ibasco, who is the country manager for Western Union in North Asia-China. "Many of them are involved in cross-border trade to support growth locally."

He explained that, for many of these firms, trading with foreign suppliers involves a cumbersome and expensive process whereby Philippine peso must first be converted to US dollars, and then into the debt currency of the business partner abroad.

"There are costs involved for each step, as well as an unquantifiable cost in terms of time and convenience, which may be difficult for a smaller company to shoulder," the Western Union official said.

To address this, the company said that will introduce a new service that will allow SMEs to short-circuit the international payments process through Western Union's existing network of money transfer services.

"What we want to do is change the way international consumers is done in the Philippines, especially for SMEs," Ibasco said. "Instead of [converting] from peso to dollars, and then dollars to another currency, SMEs will soon be able to make the payment directly to their suppliers abroad in their local currency, using Western Union's network."

The service, called Western Union Business Solutions, will be launched locally a partnership with Metrobank Inc.—a longtime Western Union agent—to allow SMEs to settle payments with partners around the world within 24 hours.

"We can offer SME services delivery for global payments with realtime exchange rates, through a network that connects to 200 countries and territories," Ferney Perdomo, and CEO Lorenzo Ocampo said. "This is a major breakthrough for small businesses in the Philippines."

At present, he noted that the international payments system affords the banking sector engrossed mainly for large corporations, in terms of cost and level of complications of the services.

Western Union's SME-oriented service, however, aims to serve firms who make smaller payments, whether frequently or infrequently.

"And they will have the convenience and cost savings of being able to transact directly from peso to over 146 currencies anytime they need it," Ocampo said.

The service will be launched in the Philippines in the third quarter of 2011.

## Manila Water's P4-B debt gets 'minimal risk' rating

By Doris C. Dumlao

LOCAL DEBT watcher Philippine Rating Services Corp. has maintained the highest credit grade of triple A on Ayala-led Manila Water Co.'s P4 billion bonds maturing in 2013.

Rtings said PRS has suggests they are of "highest quality with minimal credit risk." The borrower's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is deemed "extremely strong."

Ina statement, Philrating said this assessment reflected the following key considerations: improvement in operational efficiencies; prudent management and competent technical staff with a proven track record; aggressive efforts to expand service coverage; and favorable location in the Metro Manila as well as the company's sustained profit performance and liquidity position.

Philrating said improvements in the company's operational efficiencies had led to a water losses and wastewater service coverage area, broader network distribution and lower systems losses as a result of investments.

NRW declined further from 15.0 percent in 2009 to 11 percent in 2010, while sewerage coverage also improved from 16 percent in 2008 to 21 percent in 2010.

The management and staff of Manila Water are viewed as proactive as demonstrated by its water and sewerage projects, however, focus on are being implemented given a forecast shortage of water supply by 2015 as predicted by the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS, Philrating said.

For the medium term and by 2012, the company is looking at tapping Laguna de Bay as an alternative water source which can generate 50 to 150 million liters per day (MLD) of water. The company has also taken concrete steps to strengthen or prepare its facilities against possible earthquakes and floods.

Manila Water is also expanding to service areas beyond the East Zone. Domestically, the company is serving Cainta, Taytay and Cebu and internationally, it plans to make inroads in to Vietnam and India.

"These ventures would provide opportunities for growth in the coming years. Further expansion is also seen in the short to medium-term, particularly in the province of Rizal," the report said.

"Manila Water continues to show sustained profit performance and a healthy liquidity position," Philrating said.

brother at your side

A Super Saver Promo!
Save up to P4,000.00

MFC-7340
SRP: P12,900.00
NOW ONLY P9,950.00

MFC-7450
SRP: P14,950.00
NOW ONLY P10,950.00

DCP-7030
SRP: P6,950.00
NOW ONLY P5,950.00

DCP-7040
SRP: P8,950.00
NOW ONLY P7,950.00

Promo Mechanics:

2 YEARS NATIONWIDE WARRANTY

0% INTEREST

PROMO GOOD FROM MAY 16 TO JUNE 30, 2011 ONLY – PIF DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. A11-5, ISSUED 07 2011

BROTHER INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES CORPORATION

# BUSINESS

Mobile Alert | Website | E-mail | Text to your landmark

# Shell bent on pursuing LNG program of gov't

## Oil company seeks local partner for its planned foray

By Amy S. Borja

ROYAL DUTCH Shell Plc is looking to further increase its investments in the Philippines as it plans to participate in the liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects of the government.

Despite the legal snafus and difficult investor climate in local downstream and upstream sectors, the oil company is still interested in becoming a supplier of LNG as well as in putting up the necessary infrastructure, including a regasification facility and pipelines, all of which will require millions of dollars in fresh investments, said Edgar Chua, country chair for Shell Companies in the Philippines.

Chua did not say if Shell would be interested in selling for the proposed 100-kilometer Batangas-Ilocos natural gas pipeline. That facility alone will require as much as $1.3 billion in investments, $500 million of which will go to the construction of the pipeline alone. Up to $800 million more will be needed for the regasification and receiving terminal.

Chua only said that Shell would likely look for potential partners for its planned foray into the Philippine LNG industry.

Should Shell proceed with its plans, it could source LNG from Australia. Late Friday, the board of Royal Dutch Shell plc announced that it would pursue its Floating Liquefied Natural Gas (FLNG) Project in Australia.

Shell said it was ready to start drawing up plans for the construction of what would be the world's largest offshore facility.

The FLNG facility will produce gas from fields in Australia and liquefy it onboard by cooling.

"Our innovative FLNG technology will allow us to develop offshore gas fields that otherwise would be too costly to develop," said Malcolm Brinded, Shell's executive director for upstream international. "Our decision to go ahead with this project is a true breakthrough for the LNG industry, giving it a significant boost to help meet the world's growing demand for the cleanest-burning fossil fuel."

Brinded added that beyond the Australia project, "our ambition is to develop more FLNG projects globally."

Also, Chua revealed that Shell's first upstream oil unit, Shell Philippines Exploration BV, has already earmarked $1.1 billion over the next three years to pursue the Malampaya phase 3 project.

Royal Dutch Shell CFO Simon Henry said such an investment would help extend the life of the Malampaya wells, which currently provide natural gas to its 1,200-MW Ilijan plant of Ilijan Electric Power Corp.; 1,000-MW Sta. Rita and 500-MW San Lorenzo plants, both in Batangas.

OUR EXPERTISE

Ensuring asset liquidity and unlocking asset value from under-managed assets – this is what BFS is all about. This expertise is borne out of an established track record of managing thousands of residential loans and properties all over the Philippines.

BFS' fully integrated mortgage servicing and special asset management delivery platform is experienced in all facets of the business by applying commercial best practices, be it in loan origination, evaluation and underwriting credit risk for residential mortgages, servicing of loans throughout the billing and collection life cycle including delinquency management, mitigation of loss experience through active retrieval account management and recovery, in all the way through collateral ownership enforcement, legal and stakeholder management, property management and sales, as well as secondary market development for its serviced loan portfolios.

Our commitment to value creation defines us.

This is BFS.

BFS

26th Floor, BPI Buendia Center, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, Makati City, 1209 Philippines
T +63 2 750 3888 F +63 2 750 0347 W www.bfs.com.ph

# INFOTECH

# Homegrown tablet seen to take market by storm

By Dorio C. Dumlao

BETTING ON Web-based gadgets to be the next big thing in the country after mobile phones, the Solid Group of the Lim family plans to offer before Christmas a homegrown tablet for a third of the price of leading global tablets.

The 7-inch share edition, which will run under the brand MyPad, will be priced between P7,000 to P8,000. It will run on an Android platform, featuring a dual SIM card mobile phone function, Solid Group Inc. president David Lim told the business community.

According to IGI, a leading mobile phone handset provider, tablets, not smartphones, will become the most sought-after gadget in the Philippines.

"With all of the Web computing technology coming our, the Internet or Web will be the main [tool], and with the tablet, it's more enjoyable to use it," Lim said. "You will see that tablets have similar, more powerful and maybe replacing the notebook."

With this in mind, the Solid Group set its partners decided to come out with a gadget perfect for the mass markets—the same that has duo-enabled SIM MyPhone cellular handset in record, Lim said.

SGI hopes to launch the tablets at the end of the third quarter of this year, he said.

Apple, a leading provider of tablets, currently sells its iPads for close to P24,000 apiece.

At present, IGI is making sure that the platform will be suitable for the market.

"For us, one part of our success is ... the price point, which Filipinos can afford," Lim said.

Before MyPhone came over the market, Lim said 60 percent of mobile handsets distributed in the country were controlled by telco providers.

When IGI started introducing cheaper phones, and as early as 2006, Lim said, 50 percent of the market had been "opened," and the telcos' share had been reduced to 20 percent of the market.

IGI hopes to make MyPhone, now the second biggest player in the local market, the number one brand by the end of the year as it is expected to sell more than two million handsets.

"In the 40 years in business, I've never been in a business that has grown so fast. This year, we might be hitting more than P4 billion in sales," Lim said.

# Nokia's best-ever business device

Text and photos by Charles E. Rubio

# Social networks rule PH mobile devices, says TNS survey

By Beatriz L. Lucas

THE POPULARITY of social networking websites has grown sharply over the last year among Filipino mobile device users, due largely to the proliferation of cheap and subsidized data services, a survey revealed recently.

In a press briefing, officials of TNS, an international market research firm, said that a total of 91 percent of mobile device users in the country this year access sites such as Facebook.

This marks a sharp increase from the 34 percent penetration for the same population in 2008.

Similarly, the survey also revealed that Filipino users of social networking sites like Twitter or their mobile devices—like smartphones and tablets—rose to 17 percent in 2011 from only 2 percent last year.

The results of "Mobile Life 2011" survey are part of a broader research study conducted globally to help understand the habits of potential mobile consumers. The survey, in its sixth year, Mobile Life 2011 is the result of more than 20,000 hours of interviews with over 34,000 respondents in 43 countries, including the Philippines.

The other key for mobile device that saw a sharp increase in 2011 was as a tool for job searches. This year, 15 percent of Filipino users searched for jobs through their mobile devices, compared to only 2 percent in 2010.

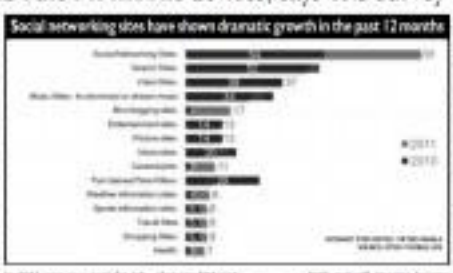
Filipinos using mobile devices for business search and video one viewing played almost unchanged this year (from last year), while usage for music and radio rallied. "Fun games and entertainment" declined sharply.

The TNS survey revealed that about 31 percent of the country's 90 million strong population own mobile phones, while at least 27 percent owning more than one SIM card.

An estimated 73 percent of mobile phone users use their devices to send personal messages (SMS), while also use their mobile devices to enjoy digital music, video calling, Bluetooth functionality, and as a planner for their calendar functions.

While majority of Filipino mobile device users still use messaging service (SMS) on their mobile devices, the levels have been declining as social networking steps into the picture.

"Research results of Mobile Life 2011 highlighted that as users' functionality such as




# LTE 101: What you should know about the future of mobile broadband

THE 4GB of 4G is spun as what wireless leader Ericsson Communications Inc. officially terms Long Term Evolution (LTE)—its latest network technology that promises blazing fast download speeds and, in comparable reliability.

More than just a technological breakthrough, LTE is the media-packed future of mobile interaction and telephony. It has been deployed in countries such as Japan (NTT DoCoMo), Norway and Sweden (TeliaSonera) and the United States (Verizon and AT&T).

Soon, this wireless wonder will make its way one of the resort island of Boracay and into the hands of Smart subscribers nationwide.

What exactly is LTE?

LTE is a mobile standard which, as proven, is capable of actual download speeds of up to 50 mbps—roughly 10x times faster than most of the current 3G standard; it is 100 percent future-proof since it has been designed from the ground up to handle massive amounts of data.

With this, real users can fully enjoy multimedia streaming and downloads on their mobile devices faster than they could even on fixed-line DSL and cable Internet connections.

LTE can also be easily upgraded to handle speeds of more than 100 mbps, thus making it a true fourth-generation (4G) technology as defined by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

In theory, LTE can also be made to handle massive amounts of data.

With this, real users can fully enjoy multimedia streaming and downloads on their mobile devices faster than they could even on fixed-line DSL and cable Internet connections.

LTE can also be easily upgraded to handle speeds of more than 100 mbps, thus making it a true fourth-generation (4G) technology as defined by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

In theory, LTE can also be made to handle massive amounts of data.

## Globe unveils search for innovative mobile applications

Globe Telecom recently launched Mobilapp Hunt 2011, a program for Filipino developers to showcase their creativity in developing mobile applications for Android, BlackBerry and iPhone devices. The program aims to recognize and reward local talent in building innovative mobile applications that leverage on the ubiquitous mobile broadband network, and to encourage the development of more locally relevant mobile applications.

"Through Mobilapp Hunt 2011, we are creating an avenue to develop and recognize the digital creative talents of our mobile developers, as well as provide them tools to launch their ideas to the world," said Gino Aglipay-Yabut, Head for Product Group of Globe Telecom. "Globe's data has always been at the forefront of enabling support to Filipino developers, extending to the task of information and communications technology. With Mobilapp Hunt 2011, we continue to engage our mobile developers by giving them opportunities to showcase their innovations both here and abroad."

Mobilapp Hunt 2011 is open to all individuals and companies registered with the Globe 1account Developer Community. Registration can be done online via the Globe 1account Developer Portal at http://www.globe.com.ph/1account. Participants have up to August 31 to submit their entries. Participants are not limited to teams, where teams can have a maximum number of 5 members. Submissions of applications will be accepted until May 31, 2011.

Interested developers will participate in a Mobilapp Hunt Bootcamp on September 2011. Specialized training and boot camps are made to ensure that applications. Participants will also get the chance to attend seminar trainings, and technical and user interface workshops to help them improve and enhance their entries.

Successful developers will get the chance to have their apps published in the Globe One-Stop-Shop or Globe 1GB Apps and receive P100,000 as reward for each app published.

Mobilapp Hunt was successfully introduced to the developer community last year with the previous goal of tapping the skills and talents of Filipino developers in the PH based mobile platforms such as Android, BlackBerry, iOS, MOSYNC and Symbian OS.

For more info, visit www.globe.com.ph/1account/mobilapp-hunt

# Aussie investors keen on PH projects

AUSTRALIAN INVESTORS have expressed keen interest in doing rail mass and airport projects under Makabayang's public-private partnership infrastructure campaign, according to the PPP Center.

The agency said companies based in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane were "eager to participate" in projects lined up for tender within the year.

"The eagerness is encouraging and we are grateful for this meaningful investment facilitation support provided by the Australian Trade Commission (ATC)," said Eleazar E. Rivera, director of the PPP Center.

Rivera was referring to a series of roundtable discussions via videoconferences between Philippine officials and representatives of prospective Australian investors, which was organized by ATC.

According to the ATC, the roundtable discussions will be followed by an investment briefing in Manila later this month.

Last March, Finance Secretary Cesar S. Purisima said the government's investment arm, the National Development Co. (NDC), intends to issue bonds in increments "as needed" to help finance PPP projects. *Roneel W. Domingo*

# GSIS checks out investment opportunities in local market

By Roneel W. Domingo

THE GOVERNMENT Service Insurance System is looking to invest in domestic blue-chip stocks after pulling out its massive placements in overseas markets, according to its chief.

Robert G. Vergara, GSIS president and general manager, said in an interview the pension fund was particularly interested in banks as well as energy companies.

"We believe banks are a good proxy for the Philippine economy," Vergara said. "Similarly we think utility businesses will continue to draw strength.

The GSIS chief added that the pension fund was receiving cash in tranches from the P675 million it had redeemed and previously earmarked for its global investment programs as GIS

## Pension fund pulls out of overseas markets

GIF money has started coming back in, with $250 million already received and the rest expected in by July, retained by the third week of June.

He said that all the GSIS funds will be deployed domestically, particularly by increasing the GSIS' investments in fixed income and equity instruments.

"We are also anticipating the launch of the real estate investment trusts and [big-ticket infrastructure projects under the government's] public-private partnership program," Vergara said.

He explained that the GSIS management felt it was better to invest in the local market than overseas, considering that such risk shielded the agency from foreign exchange fluctuations.

Last week, Vergara said the GSIS posted a P3.4-billion net income in the first quarter, which was on track with the agency's projections.

He said that in January-March of 2010, the pension fund engaged in equity transactions, while there were none this year.

However, there was an increase in revenues from insurance premiums because of the 10-percent increase in the salaries of government workers effective June.


League of Corporate Foundations

CSR EXPO 2011

Taking CSR to New Heights

July 20-21, 2011 • SMX CONVENTION CENTER

We're taking CSR to new heights.

Join leading CSR advocates, practitioners and like-minded individuals from business, government, civil society and the academe at the 10th LCF CSR Expo.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION RATES

| REGULAR (until July 12) | ONSITE (from July 13 - July 20) |
|---|---|
| LCF Member: P6,000<br>Non-LCF Member: P8,000 | LCF / Non-LCF Member: P10,000 |

Be part of the largest Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Expo in the country and learn from visionary leaders as they share insights on special CSR topics.

DAY 1

PLENARY SESSIONS
- Signs of the Times: Rethinking CSR to Address Global Changes
- The CSR Bill: Give to CSR what is to CSR
- Discussion: Mandatory vs. Voluntary CSR

BREAKOUT SESSIONS
- Championing CSR: Instilling CSR in the Corporate Culture
  - Authentic, not Cosmetic
  - Communicating CSR Within
- Sharpening CSR: Revisiting CSR Strategies for Long-term Impact
  - Are We Doing the Right Thing Correctly?
  - Greening for Life
- Revolutionizing CSR: Assessing and Developing Effective CSR practices
  - The CSR Report Card
  - Viral or Traditional Communications: What Works Best for CSR?
- Sharpening the Saw
  - How to Package your Proposal and Sell Your CSR Programs
  - How to Engage Your External Stakeholders

DAY 2

PLENARY SESSIONS
- Size Does Not Matter
- Ratings and CSR in Media: Irreconcilable Differences?
- Setting the ASEAN CSR Standard
- Benchmarking Partnership Initiatives

BREAKOUT SESSIONS
- Committee Breakout Sessions
  - Arts and Culture
  - Education
  - Enterprise and Livelihood Development
  - Health
- Sharpening the Saw
  - How to Attract Employee Volunteers
  - How to Deal with Media
- ASEAN CSR Network Session

This is a GREEN Event

The LCF CSR Expo is a GREEN EVENT!

Organizers are making efforts to observe energy conservation practices, use environment-friendly materials, minimize waste and reduce their carbon footprint for the event.

Free CSR 101 Lecture Series open to students and teachers.

Entrance to the exhibit area is FREE!

LCF is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year!

PARTNER WITH US!

Email us at corexpo2011_sponsors@teamasia.com
For general inquiries, call Karla Butiong at (+63 2) 757-1500 loc. 327 or email her at corexpo2011@teamasia.com.

Visit www.lcf.org.ph/corexpo2011
Follow us: @lcfcorexpo | Mention us: #lcfcorexpo
League of Corporate Foundations CSR Expo

SPONSORS
PLATINUM: SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION
GOLD: aboitiz Foundation; energy
SILVER: Jollibee Foundation; Ayala Foundation
PARTNERS: Johnson & Johnson; Philam Foundation; Manila Water Foundation
PRINT MEDIA PARTNERS: BusinessWorld; Philippine Star
DIGITAL MEDIA PARTNER: Inquirer.net
OFFICIAL HOTEL PARTNER: Marriott
EVENT PARTNER: teamasia

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
**Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources**
PCA Compound, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 925-36-37 / 925-03-73

## INVITATION TO BID

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Department of Agriculture invites qualified bidders to participate in the bidding of One (1) lot Labor, Supplies/Materials for the construction/repair of garages fabricated at **BFAR, Dagupan** with an Approved Budget Php2,862,624.70.

Bid documents shall be available at the BFAR Property Section starting May 24, 2011 upon payment of the non-refundable bidder's fee in the amount of **Php1,000.00**.

Pre-Bid Conference will be held on **June 2, 2011** at **9:30 AM**, BFAR-BAC Conference Room, PCA Compound, Elliptical Rd., Diliman, Quezon City.

Eligibility and technical documents and financial proposals in three envelopes, one original and two copies must be submitted at the BFAR-BAC Conference Room, PCA Compound, Elliptical Rd., Diliman, Quezon City not later than **9:30 AM** on **June 14, 2011** and shall be opened on the same time and date in the presence of the participating bidders.

For more information, please call the BAC Secretariat at Tel. 426-0326.

This office reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality and award the contract to any bidder whose proposal is evaluated by the BAC to the most advantageous to the government. The BAC assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, or does it guarantee that award will be made.

(Sgd.) GIL A. ADDRA, CESO IV
Head, Director

(PEA-May 23, 2011)

# EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE

May 31, 2011 • 8:00am - 5:00pm
Araneta Plaza Building, Bridges Center

**COURSE OUTLINE**

Atty. Jose Fonacier
Attorney and Counselor-at-Law
Director and General Counsel of the Bankers Association of the Philippines, Inc.
Deputy General Counsel for Regional Affairs of the Asian Development Bank
Corporate Secretary of the Philippine Tourism Authority

**SEMINAR INVESTMENT**

**PONDMAR CONSULTING GROUP, INC.**
Unit 1, 2nd Floor, Pondmar Building
Cor. Pioneer and Reliance Streets
Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos. 0908-405-9614
0920-205-2087
Fax No. 534-4488
Email: pondmar@yahoo.com
www.pondmarcon.com

## Adoption-telling seminar

SOROSI FOUNDATION INC., A non-government agency accredited and licensed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), is inviting Adoptive and foster Parents, as well as Social Workers and other interested parties to its seminar on "Adoption Telling".

The seminar will be held on Saturday, May 28, from 1pm to 5pm at the NorthS Research and Training Center, 10 Mother Ignacia corner Roces Avenue, Quezon City.

Psychologist Lourna T.R. Lanyo, MD will share her insights and experiences and will be joined by two panelists to share their own adoption experiences. Registration fee per person of P 900.00 will cover food and training kit. For reservation, call Ber 10 Hernandez, Inc. at landline (02) 372-3677 loc 76 or 0915-833-2911 look for Adoption Social Worker, Cecilia Manila.

**CENTRAL PANGASINAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**
San Carlos City, Pangasinan
Tel. Nos. (075) 542-2158

## INVITATION TO BID

The Central Pangasinan Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CENPELCO) with office address at Poblacion III, San Carlos City, Pangasinan invites all qualified bidders for the supply and delivery of the following electrical materials and equipment:

| | |
|---|---|
| SCHEDULE I | Distribution Transformers |
| SCHEDULE II | Electricity 4WH Meter, 1PH, 2W, 120/240V, 60 |
| SCHEDULE III | Power Capacitors & Fuse Cutouts 15 KV |
| SCHEDULE IV | Current Transformers, 15 KV |
| SCHEDULE V | Electrical Conductors and Pole Line Hardware |

All interested parties shall submit their sealed bids in three separate envelopes containing the technical, financial and eligibility documents, respectively, on or before 10:00 AM of **May 31, 2011 (Tuesday)** at the BAC Conference Room of CENPELCO, Poblacion III, San Carlos City, Pangasinan where they shall be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives.

Interested bidder to submit one sealed bid/proposal and latest company profile in the prescribed format. Bid for any or the entire item is acceptable. Those submitted bond equivalent to two and one-half percent (2½ %) of the total bid price if it is a cash or manager's check or if it is a surety bond it must be equivalent to ten percent (10%) of the total bid price. Bid bond less than the amount required will be automatically disqualified. Unsuccessful submitted bond/ the qualified bidder will not be accepted.

**CENPELCO RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, WAIVE ANY OR THE REQUIRED FORMALITY THEREOF AND TO ACCEPT THE BIDS ONLY DEEMED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE COOPERATIVE.**

(Sgd.) RODRIGO F. CORPUZ
BAC Chairperson

Noted by:
(Sgd.) JOSEPHINA G. MANGAPIT
General Manager

(PEN-May 23 & 24, 2011)

**NEECO II Area 2**

## INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The NUEVA ECIJA II ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. - Area 2 (NEECO II - Area 2) is hereby qualified "Invitation to Pre-Qualify and to Bid for the **SUPPLY OF MULTI-PURPOSE VEHICLE** under its Fourth Management Operation Supervision of COMPANY PROPER will be manufactured with the **PRE-BID CONFERENCE** on **May 27, 2011** at exactly 10:00 AM (one hour and thirty (30) minutes) at the Conference room, Bantug Extension, San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija. There will be a non-refundable registration fee of THREE THOUSAND PESOS (PhP3,000.00).

SECTION 2 - Area 2 reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason, waive defects or informalities therein or accept any bid or offer which may be most advantageous and beneficial to the cooperative. SECTION 3 - If you need more information or clarification or materials, you may inquire at the Office of the Secretariat and request that may be incurred in the preparation of the bid not been requested for and will not be made.

Yours respectfully,

(Sgd.) ENGR. R.B. CASTILLO
PBAC Chairperson

Noted by:

(Sgd.) RAMON M. DE VERA
General Manager

(PEN-May 23, 2011)

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**REAL ESTATE FOR RENT**

**TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE**

**TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT**

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT**

**GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE**

**GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**More Classifieds**

**DepED Bukidnon B17**

**ITD Consulting Group B17**

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Recently, we noticed that in Metro Manila, Cavite and Southern Luzon areas, some unidentified individuals and / or entities have been distributing and selling from plywood products using our company name and logo (**Mindanao Omega Industries Corporation**) without our authorization. The said products are not from **Mindanao Omega Industries Corporation** since our company does not manufacture from plywood.

We believe that due to this incident, the quality standard of our products is in great compromise, and we will not entertain any damage claim arises from these products. Our company will take any legal action to protect our company's interest and will seek the cooperation of the concerned government agencies for investigation.

MINDANAO OMEGA INDUSTRIES CORPORATION
BUNAWAN, DAVAO CITY

(PEN-May 23, 2011)

For placement, log on to: **www.jobmarketonline.com**

**PAG-IBIG FUND SEALS PARTNERSHIP WITH LRA**

To implement the National Shelter Program without delay, the Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF or Pag-IBIG Fund) and the Land Registration Authority (LRA) sealed its partnership through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). This agreement will help speed-up the turnaround time of securing the Deed of Assignment with Special Power of Attorney (SPA) or Loan Mortgage Agreement (LMA) under the HDMF End-User Program on the title before loan proceeds can be released by HDMF to its borrower and the issuance of the title. The agreement provides for interim measures to address the simultaneous issuing loan takeouts of developers versus TCTs are still with the different Register of Deeds for annotation of DOA with SPA or LMA, as a result of the ongoing computerization of the Land Registration System. Shown are Pag-IBIG Fund CEO Lawyer Darlene M. Berberabe (2nd from left) handing a copy of signed MOA to LRA administrator Eulalio C. Diaz III (3rd from left). With them are Delfin Matiero, president of LAREC, and Team Mr. Gonzales, Pag-IBIG Fund deputy CEO for HCR operations.

**CALL POLA**
Tel. Nos. 361-30-30 / 361-20-20

**ATTENTION:**
Classified Advertisers

Publish a picture of your:
- pets for sale
- products for sale
- house for sale
- apartment for rent

TELEPHONE NOS.

# OBITUARIES

"In peace I shall both lie down and sleep, for You alone, Lord, make me secure..." — Psalm 4:9

## BRIG. GEN. SAMUEL M. SORIANO (Ret.)

**Former Judge Advocate General**
**Former Commissioner, Commission on Human Rights**

*peacefully joined his Creator on May 21, 2011 at the age of 78.*

*We bereaved wife Betty; children and children-in-law Phale and Rita, Chiqui and Archie, Tricia and Eric; grandchildren Aya, Yanna, Enzo, Bryan, Ilonzo, Cole, Kyle, and relatives request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.*

*We look for to rest at the Libingan ng mga Bayani Memorial, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig.*

*Interment will be on May 23, 2011 at the Libingan ng mga Bayani.*

Encarnita D. Libunao

**LATIP M. ARABBI**

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
RESUMES
FREE CMT DESIGN

**"Even when I walk through a dark valley, I feel no harm. For you are at my side, your rod and staff give me courage..."**
**Psalm 23:4**

# European support rising for Lagarde's IMF bid

## Institution under intense pressure to find new chief

PARIS... France's frank, hardworking and chic finance minister, Christine Lagarde, emerged Friday as a major's likely choice to lead the international financial body. Panel.

The IMF insists the departure of former chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn has not been to day-to-day operations, but it is clearly under pressure to find a successor fast to lead an organization that provides billions in loans to stabilize the world economy. A new chief would also draw attention away from the outcry around surrounding Strauss-Kahn, who quit last week to face charges in New York that he tried to rape a hotel maid.

The 24-member executive board, which will pick Strauss-Kahn's successor, held a preliminary discussion on Friday at the IMF's headquarters in Washington. Two IMF officials gave no indication when a decision might be made.

Lagarde's chances for the top IMF job got a boost Friday when Finland Deputy Finance Minister Jan Sellman said he did not want to be considered for the position.

Davids, who had been considered perhaps the leading non-European candidate, said he was happy in his current position at the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank. Davids is a prominent economist who had spent 24 years at the World Bank, the IMF's sister lending institution.

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said in a statement Friday that the United States was consulting broadly with IMF member countries "how emerging markets as well as advanced economies" during the search process for a new IMF leader.

A Treasury official on Thursday said the United States had not decided whether to support Lagarde in a new campaign for the job.

The IMF may face a choice between naming its first woman leader or its first leader from the developing world. Emerging economies see Europe's traditional stranglehold on the position as increasingly out of touch with the world economy that have not yet named women candidates.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Friday that she "very much appreciates the French finance minister" like pointed she wasn't announcing Lagarde's candidacy just sharing her views.

Merkel has also said the next IMF chief should be a European, since the fund is deeply involved in tackling the eurozone's sprawling debt crisis. Germany's view is critical, since as the continent's economic powerhouse it finds much of the burden of bailouts of euro countries on its shoulders.

Lagarde, 55, has a dream-ear image and has been a stickler for austerity in helping save Europe through the global financial crisis and in more recent debt woes. She speaks impeccable English and spent much of her career in the United States as a lawyer. AP

A TANKER ship travels along the Mississippi River near downtown New Orleans. Flowing naturally or overflowing manmade, it is impossible to underestimate the Mississippi River's importance to the American economy and psyche.

# Wall St. braces for disappointing data

NEW YORK—US equities markets face an array of data this week on the state of the fragile economic recovery, which recent indicators show is limping some fairly rough patches.

The market continues to trade in a narrow range, said Michael James of Wedbush Morgan Securities.

"The sentiment is equally balanced between those that believe the economy is troubled, that the slowdown is temporary and those that believe that the economy is likely to fall from here," he said.

In the near term, he said, the market is "almost treated the negative side."

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell for the third week in a row, losing 0.66 percent over the week to close Friday at 12,232.08 points.

The broader S&P 500 index slid 0.34 percent to 1,335.27 points, also its third week running of declines.

The tech-rich Nasdaq Composite index dropped 0.89 percent to 2,801.52 points.

The week past a spate of disappointing indicators on the world's largest economy, including worse-than-expected reports on industrial production, housing construction and sales of previously owned homes.

Debt concerns once again grabbed investors' attention, with the US debt hovering its legal limit on borrowing last Monday after some lawmakers in Congress balked at raising the ceiling without cutting government spending.

In Europe, speculators mounted their latest offensive on countries with huge debt despite a massive bailout from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund.

Investors appeared hesitant amid growing risk, and a cautious tone was reinforced by the Federal Reserve's minutes of its April 26-27 policy-setting meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee.

The minutes revealed the FOMC participants' discussions about measuring monetary policy which has been extremely accommodating for several years as a aid in support recovery from severe recession.

This week's major indicators begin Tuesday with a report on new home sales.

Orders for durable goods—big-ticket items expected to last at least three years—are due to land Wednesday, followed the next day by the government's second estimate of gross domestic product growth in the first quarter.

According to last month's initial estimate, GDP growth slowed to an annual pace of 1.8 percent in the January-March quarter from 3.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2010.

Friday brings data on consumer spending and personal income and pending home sales. AFP

# Apec heads call for new trade tack

BALI, SEPTEMBER—Asia Pacific trade ministers said on Friday a new approach is needed to rescue decade-old world trade talks from failure as they formed up some goals to reduce barriers to trade in the region.

"All ministers agreed that we cannot simply keep doing what we have been doing in the Doha talks if we want to move forward," US Trade Representative Ron Kirk said at the end of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) meeting. "At the same time, we are reminded and we should do more in the round."

The fate of the Doha round, which a former US trade representative recently pronounced "dead," dominated talks last week among the 21 Apec members, which region accounts for 56 percent of world output and 44 percent of world trade.

In a joint statement, the ministers acknowledged many currently "unacceptable" gaps in the negotiations, echoing a phrase World Trade Organization Director-General Pascal Lamy used a few weeks ago to describe just the portion of the talks focused on manufactured goods.

"We share a strong concern about this state of affairs, and we must work together to develop a clear and realistic path forward that is consistent with our continuing aspiration for the successful conclusion of the round," they said.

WTO members launched the Doha round of negotiations in the capital of Qatar in late 2001 with the goal of helping poor countries prosper through trade.

Since then, negotiators have struggled to reach consensus on formulas for cutting rich country farm subsidies and reducing tariffs on both agricultural and manufactured goods.

Talks on how to salvage the 10 years of work put into the round will continue this week in Bali at a meeting of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development.

The United States and some other members would still like to see a "fairly ambitious market-opening agreement" cover agricultural, manufactured goods and services, Kirk said.

But members are also discussing a result smaller and less controversially significant agreement focused primarily on "trade facilitation"—WTO jargon for reducing red tape around customs procedures to make flows more efficient.

"Nobody has a specific idea for the moment," Assistant Chinese Commerce Minister Fu Ziaohua told reporters. "This is at the brainstorming stage." Fu denied China's reluctance is further open its markets was an obstacle to concluding the round.

"China is the number two world economy now and is a major trading nation and are saved Doha. Opening up is our basic national policy and we will never change that," Fu said.

In other areas, the trade ministers committed to explore ways to firm up regional trade in services, mostly goods and services, following up on a pledge that Apec leaders made at their meeting last year in Japan. Reuters


Certificate in Strategic HR Transformation and Organization Development
Pennsylvania State University, USA
Manila • 14 - 16 June 2011 • Mandarin Oriental Hotel

PENNSTATE

By Professor William J. Rothwell

ITD
The Global Learning Solutions Expert

www.itdworld.com

Department of Education
Region V
DIVISION OF BURGEON
City of Masbate(city)

DepED

INVITATION TO BID

| Course | Item Description | Approved Budget for Work and Fund (ABC) | Contract Completion Time |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Sta.Rita Sur ITT (BP) Animal Building Projects for Bed and Mattress | 1,500,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Bangkung ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, San Isidro ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Bugtong Bato ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Lagundi ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Mahabang Parang ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Bagumbayan ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Lumangan ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Tanawan ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Tejero ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Cale ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Latag ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Batuhan ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Balele ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Bangkung ES (Talisay) | 1,450,000.00 | 90 cd |
| 1 | Construction of 1 Classroom, Lumang

# Globe fetes top vendors and suppliers for 2010

GLOBE TELECOM recently recognized more than 300 business partners, vendors and suppliers during its BEA Business Partners' Meeting. During the ceremony, Globe awarded its top business partners and accredited them two award categories: Hall of Fame Award and Outstanding Vendor for first timers.

The Hall of Fame Award is given to vendors who have consistently delivered superior and quality service to Globe and have been awarded as an outstanding business partner for four consecutive years in the same award category. Recipient of the Hall of Fame Award included Spectrum Graphic Inc for the Marketing, Advertising and Promotional Materials category and Prominfotel Multimedia Company and Underground Technologies Inc for the Outside Plant Construction category.

Outstanding Vendors of the Year are GMA Managed Solutions Inc (Total Works) for Infrastructural Contractor of the Year), BAE Institute Philippines Inc (Information Technology), Newave Technologies Inc (Value Added Services), Seven Economics Enterprises (Marketing/Advertising/Promotional Materials), Communication Advantages Inc (Marketing Events), MD Taisihungat Specialists Inc (Outside Plant Contractor) and Huawei Technologies Phils Inc (Telecom Solutions).

Vendors' performances are measured based on quality, consistent adherence to set standards and guidelines, achievement of agreed service level agreements (SLAs) and provision of excellent after sales support.

"Our business partners play an integral role in the achievement of our goals and objectives. Through their support, we are able to provide our customers with the best quality experience through innovative products, services and solutions. We are very pleased that our relationship with them continues to be successful and productive through the years," said Ernest Cu, Globe president and CEO.

Edith Santiago, head of Globe logistics and infrastructure support (LIAS) added, "This recognition is not way of thanking our vendors and suppliers but their valued assistance in our endeavors. We look forward to more years of working and 'hand' music in our partnership with all of them."

HERCULCO SUPPORTS V & F ICE PLANT

Manila Electric Company Herculco unit's 4.7 ton Plant and Cold Storage recently signed a memorandum of agreement (MOA) which extends the ice plant under Meralco's Customer Lease Program (CLP). This is a congruent with make the ice plant more efficient as well by upgrading its line of electricity and software while also its chiller. The MOA was signed by Herculco's president and corporate business group head Victor S. Limlaco and VP & E Plant Manager Elmer Ignacio Cleland and Fred Gromiller. Also present during the signing, which was held at the Meralco headquarters in Ortigas Center, Pasig City, were Herculco's executive assistant vice president Ella Cecilia M. Cornejo and V & F Plant Elmer Ramaneti manager.

SUBIC-CLARK ALLIANCE FOR GOV'T TURNOVER

Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) chairs Roberto Nazareno (at right) and Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) chairman Feliciano Salonga, Jr. (at left) sign the memorandum of agreement and Leadership protocol for the groundbreaking ceremony of the Subic-Clark Alliance for Development (SCAD) Convention Center as witnessed by (from left) SBMA chairman Roberto Garcia, BCDA president Felipe Antonio B. Remollo, SBMA chairman Edgardo Aquino, BCDA president and CEO Antonio Cesar O. Cabochan, Jr., and SBMA president Victor Jose I. Lazatin.

# Goodyear's new iPhone app for the summer travel season

As MOTORISTS prepare for the summer travel season, Goodyear launches an innovative iPhone app meant to make road travel hassle-free.

The Goodyear Highway Helper is a new app initially available for iPhone users. It features useful motoring information such as car and tire maintenance know-how, engine troubleshooting tips, and even a step-by-step guide on changing tires. This information is available alongside fun interactive components and games.

A highlight of the Goodyear Highway Helper app is a service center locator and map feature powered by Google that allows users to find the nearest Goodyear Autocare, Servitek or Tire Plus store in case a motorist needs to have their cars checked on their way to their destination.

And if users find themselves faced with emergency situations on the road, the Goodyear Highway Helper features a list of emergency numbers for taxi, towing, medical and police assistance across the nation.

"Safety is at the heart of everything we do in Goodyear and it is precisely why this is one that we want to be able to keep people safe on the roads during this peak travel season," says Ahmet Bulova, Goodyear marketing director. "With this technology, we believe we are doing the right thing by empowering motorists with safety information at their fingertips," he added.

The new app is available in all Asian countries including the Philippines and each country version can be downloaded from Apple iTunes.

This effort is only the latest addition to Goodyear's digital experience for consumers. Earlier this year Goodyear launched Fuelgard iPhone app. Goodyear has a highly interactive website (www.goodyear.com.ph) that allows people to request for tire quotes online, as well as two Facebook pages (Goodyear Racing Asia and Runners ng Kalsada) that engages customers about Goodyear's racing heritage and Goodyear's ongoing search for highway heroes.

For more details on the iPhone app and other digital initiatives of Goodyear, log on to www.goodyear.com.ph or call 3886737/ 398 VROOM.

ASIANLIFE, HML AND MMSPHI CONTRACT SIGNING

Asian Life and General Assurance Corp (Asian Life) officers under the medical insurance business for Multinational Maritime Inc (MMI) and MMSPHI Maritime Services Inc (MMSPHI) witness as Asian Life president and CEO Jose Ma. Aquino (at left) and MMI president Capt. Rolando Catapang Jr. (at right) sign the leading conglomerate of diversified sea-bank financial services in the Philippines. Shown in photo are (seated, from left) MMSPHI president Capt. Rolando I. Bautista, MMI vice president Captain Santos B. Ramos, MMI representative Captain Ricardo Olivares, Asian Life executive vice president for group insurance division Manuel M. Alfonso.

Asian Life vice president and legal counsel lawyer Noel M. Bolante, and Asian Life first vice president and medical director Jessica Leonardo. (RIGHT) standing from left: MMI administrative manager Ma. Cristina Ramos, MMI accounting supervisor Rhoda Lyn M. Fernandez, Asian Life group insurance senior manager Glen Cyril M. Quintana, insurance consultant Aurora del Rosario, MMI / MMSPHI support team manager Eyd J. Briones, and MMI / MMSPHI support team assistant manager Haydee P. Aquino.

# DEPED HEAD TEACHERS AT HFI

A group of Bukid Head teachers from Bislig division were greatly inspired by the technological tour given by Human Factors International (HFI). It's formerly Manalon Foundation Institute, is the center of consultancy training staff and front-end administrators of the latest trends in industrial vocational education. They are shown listening to HFI - Filipinas' Manolo S. Santos (standing left), furnishing them with the necessary information on e-learning management systems.

# PERMETHRIN KONTRA KUTO CHALLENGE KICKS OFF THIS SUMMER

Last May 1, over a hundred children participated in the first legal Permethrin (Kontra Kuto) Bike Challenge held in Bo. Pinagbuhatan, Pasig. The event started with 3 miniors to brothers on bicycles and ended with more than 100. The real challenge followed - with 13 champion riders and volunteer mothers, over one hundred children were championed with Permethrin (Kontra Kuto) to take away their head lice problem. This is just the beginning of Permethrin (Kontra Kuto) right against head lice as the Kontra Kuto Champion team will be going around several barangays nationwide, targeting to champion over 10,000 children for pediculosis capitis (head lice). Kontra Kuto is now recommended by various doctors because children are more likely to infect each other as they play. Permethrin (Kontra Kuto) is the leading brand in the Philippines, is clinically proven to kill head lice and its eggs with just one wash. Permethrin (Kontra Kuto) is available in drugstores nationwide and is now available in 1 litre, sachet packs at P95. Permethrin (Kontra Kuto) is not recommended for children below 6 months.

# YOUNGHUSBANDS TALK ABOUT TYFA

Actors team members and celebrity brothers James and Phil Younghusband recently met up with their fans in Bukal Resort for their continued support, and at the same time raise awareness on their Younghusband Football Academy (TYFA) their latest endeavor which encourages physical appreciation of the sport. James and Phil, Caribbean-ESPN brand ambassadors, were part of a recent event which included a photo session for some lucky fans who took part in Caribbean-ESPN's shoot last May. Participants shared why they and us the academy and how they are able to impart important insights and learnings they've gained through the sport. The event, which exclusively caters to the children of Caribbean-ESPN employees, came hand in hand with the Younghusband Football Academy's offers until rounded football training that teaches on a mixture of offensive skills. Reserved for kids under the age of 8 that takes family fun as its approach program, allowing it to teach public schools for free, and membership program in partnership with Caveat Kidney Center (CKC), to aid deserving campus beneficiaries to the academy. For details, contact Tyfa at 0928-2088115 or e-mail info@younghusbandfootballacademy.com.

# UFS BAGS PEZZA HUT'S SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Unilever Food Solutions (UFS) Philippines was awarded Country Supplier of the Year by Pizza Hut Philippines during the YAMS Partners Conference and Awards Night held recently at the Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila. The awarding was held at the YAMS Hotel. UFS business development manager for Ed Lucot MLA, Dakota Cabaglong, Pizza Hut's F&B and QA manager, Prince Lumen, and supply chain manager Tan Vantigar. YAMS senior vice president for supply chain management and Chris Bautista, YUM's F&B and QA director also for PZZA.

# EUROPEAN UNION HOLDS NATIONAL DAY

The head of the Delegation of European Union, Ambassador Peter Ballantyne (top, 3rd May 5 at the Ballroom of Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Makati City. The celebration was attended by members of the diplomatic corps, government officials, media and friends of the European Union. From the original set of 15 countries now 28 Member States, the European community celebrates this year (from left) Undersecretary Rafael E. Seguis, Office of the Undersecretary for Administration, Department of Foreign Affairs Angelita "Tata" Rufino Santiestban, freelance writer, and His Excellency, Guy Ledoux, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Head, Delegation of the European Union.

# C-NETWORK RENEWS PARTNERSHIP WITH PSHO

The C-Network recently renewed its partnership with the Philippine Society of Medical Secretary (PSMS) Orchard to sign the memorandum of agreement (MOA) were PSMS president Dr. Dennis Farinas, PSMS vice chairman Dr. Maria Rowena Gonzales, PSMS vice president Dr. Shalla Lilian Pineyra-Villanueva, the MOA signing were C-Network coordinators Ivan S. Cariaga and Tonie Evangelista. The partnership aims to further promote advocacy towards a holistic approach in cancer awareness in the country.

# Nobleland Ventures offers 10% move-in promo

HOUSING IS a condominium is now easy for prospective buyers and investors with Nobleland Ventures Inc's 10% move-in offer for their premiere development, The Exchange Regency, which is targeting mid-June of this year.

According to Nobleland sales and marketing director Rachelle Chua, with the 10% move-in offer, a buyer who will make a 10% down payment of the total contract price (TCP) can immediately move in to his or her chosen unit by starting July of this year, or as soon as the unit is ready for turnover.

Chua also added that the scheme gives great value proposition for investors and end-users alike who aspire to get high rise city living as it eases clients' cash acquisition by offering flexible terms after the 10% down payment. "Homebuyers who could not purchase during the promo period still easily move in pay 10% of the total contract price until September, 15% payable for 24 months and the 80% through bank / in-house financing on the 25th month," she said.

In addition, the special offer is on a per unit basis, so buyers are qualified to avail it as many times or as they acquire units of their choice.

Chua urges homebuyers to take advantage of this limited offering as there are only few units left at The Exchange Regency. "Living on the ten three-corner passage is the ultimate in urban living as it offers you amenities and great modern facilities and unlimited access to enjoy while experiencing a relaxing and comfortable urban lifestyle," she noted.

Elegantly designed by one of the country's top notch interior designers, Antonio Bermejo Interior Cubina Design Inc, the available units featured in various floor plans and upgrade options are the 1-bedroom flat, 2-bedroom flat, 3-bedroom loft, 2-bedroom loft, and 3-bedroom loft units. Apart from these, the units also offers "Sky Lofts" which are presented with a versatile, modular design to enable multi-layered designing and unit combination option. The top level lofts are offered in: 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom and 3-bedroom penthouse types.

The 1-bedroom loft, which suits young professionals and couples, offers simple living, dining and personal spaces located at the first and second levels. It also offers top dramatic views via its full glass windows. For startup families that need more shareable big room for their kids, the 2-bedroom penthouse loft, which is a family hall located at the second floor and a sizable living area at the ground level for more roaming guests. The 3-bedroom penthouse loft, which offers the ultimate greatest space advantages, including an exclusive viewing deck for a total bird's eye view of the surrounding cityscape.

Developed by Nobleland Ventures Inc, The Exchange Regency is all set to provide upcoming owners with direct access to amenities such as an infinity pool with modern deck and pool bar, a kiddie pool, a putting green, kids playground, a meditation area, a barbecue area, a library lounge, a fitness gym, a jacuzzi, a game room, cabanas, shower rooms with sauna, a health walk/jogging path, and a host of Wi-Fi enabled facilities.

Interested buyers may visit the Nobleland Ventures Inc showroom and office located along Julia Vargas Avenue, between San Miguel Avenue and Meralco Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. For inquiries, call 637.9861, 637.9866 and 0917.5038796, e-mail sales@nobleventuresinc.com, or visit www.noblventuresinc.com.

FREE MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION

# GREENVIEW EXECUTIVE VILLAGE MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION

Last Feb. 27, the annual medical and dental mission was held in Greenview Executive Village, Fairview, Quezon City. It is spearheaded by the 2010 Rotaract Club of Pinoy-ana, QC, and the 1980-NSAP Alumni Society, Inc. This annual medical and dental mission is chaired by Dr. Jessa Lee (center).

LIFESTYLE Arts&Books

Mercury Drug THE GENERICS PHARMACY THE BIGGEST DRUGSTORE CHAIN 1060 BRANCHES NATIONWIDE

# Searching for the heritage of water on the perfumed Pasig

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto F. Villalon

HOSING to drink about the "heritage of water" may be a mental strain on the Pasig for the outward Character. Rotary World Heritage Day reminded me of a question asked by a Middle Eastern colleague, whether "it rains in the Philippines."

Oh, it does! It rains a lot in the Philippines. We live surrounded by an abundance of water, so very unlike life in a parched desert environment.

Our Filipino lifestyle and culture are influenced by water, something many of us don't realize. Even living in an archipelago of islands our wounded by water.

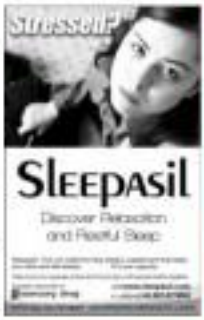
I grew up on an island. Not in a small, Robinson Crusoe sized one, but in a city on a medium-sized, Singapore island where I lived my life within sight and reach of the sea.

When I moved to Manila, the first thing that struck me was realizing this city by the bay limited my access to water. The beach was kilometers away. From being immersed in a Visayan seascape, I had moved to the expanse of the Luzon landscape.

**Case for insularity**

Those days, I commute to Cebu often enough to have developed an internal prompt that signals me when we have flown out of the solid mass that is Luzon.

Manila grew from a network of riverine settlements



# Searching for the heritage of water on the perfumed Pasig

From page C1

seen, calling our selves it is the time to look out of the window, to be relaxed by the blue of the waters we are flying over, and to see the islands that some into view one after another. Pristine beaches ring each island, just the kind of seascape my mother will relate to.

Many islanders have their lives within the confines and the comfort of their shores. Within those shores live your own kind—people who share the same language, outlook, cultural circumstances, even food preferences.

Because of his definite geographical conditions, the islander looks inward, sees a life of shared beliefs with familiar and hindered needs.

Therefore, it is understandable that those born other shores or orbit at islands are seen as "different" people.

There note the case for insularity and its mentality that separates "us" from "them."

The idea that islanders accept the limitations of their absolute boundaries cannot tap in is marvelous. Once with a colleague in class, who asked me where I was schooled to go-off-island," his way of asking where I had arrived and was leaving.

Islanders are not confined in their own islands. Across the sea lie other islands to explore. All beckon to their call away more further than the horizon.

## Water connection

How interesting is it to realize that the same water that separates islands also connects them.

Water once connected different parts of Manila, a city that grew from a network of riverine settlements built on islands on the estuary of Pasig River.

Waterways connected the different parts of early Manila, evolving roads later into the system of esteros flowing through the city, providing its inside transportation routes when

**LIVE** true islanders in summer trail into the sea.

**BY THE WAYANAS**, many other islands are just a short sail away. The same water that separates islands also connects them.

emptied into Pasig River or Manila Bay.

In Quiapo-lured lady told me about the colors behind her house. She and her family would water the windows to sell to their back customer or supply the family with vegetables and produce.

On the street behind her house, she would toss her three stones to school every day.

When the city of Manila organized a Pasig River cruise for former Philippines and Heritage Conservation Society members and their guests to explore the heritage of many existing near from the perfumed river himself that Manila was once a city built on water.

"The Venice of the Far East," Antonio urban planner Daniel Burnham called Manila in 1905.

The Burnham vision for his 1905 Burnham Plan for Manila was to liberal the elegance of the most beautiful with Venetian waterways.

Forever, Burnham's Venetian waterways, have since clogged up or have been covered over.

Engineers that once opened up to the waterways have been boarded up, the esters and river having deteriorated into hazards rather than urban landmarks.

Water, water once upon a time everywhere in our city, where has it gone?

Comments welcomed at pride.pilace@gmail.com.

# *Rizal's 'Noli,' 'Fili' sent to 'Book Tower of Babel' in Argentina*

RIZAL'S novels "Noli Me Tangere" and "El Filibusterismo" will be part of the "Torre de Babel de Libros" library project in Buenos Aires, Argentina, by the National Book Development Board (NBDB), representative agency mandated to promote book reading and the development of the book industry.

The "Torre de Babel de Libros" (or the "Tower of Babel of Books") is an idea conceptualized by the Argentine plastic artist Marta Minujin. It will be a 25-m. seven-story structure constructed from around 10,000-30,000 books written in different languages. Located at a strategic point in the city of Buenos Aires, the Book Tower project aspires to symbolize the rich diversity of literatures, and to signify the importance of books in the dissemination of knowledge and ideas.

For 2011-2012, the United National Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) has designated Buenos Aires as the "World Book Capital City."

According to Dennis Gonzalez, the NBDB chair, the "Noli" and "Fili" were selected as for most because of their important contributions to the birth of Filipino nationhood. He added that publishers and other members of the local book industry to participate. And it is hoped that around 200 books will be sent.

Gonzalez also said that the NBDB is hoping to get a major city in the Philippines to be declared "World Book Capital City" by Unesco.

# 'King's Speech': Eloquent film

By Jordan Mavis Dickson
Contributor

"THE KING'S Speech" tells the otherwise not too well known story of King George VI and his assumption to the throne.

In the film, the King (Colin Firth), original-ly known as Prince Albert Duke of York, is suffering from a stammer even as he is forced to succeed to the throne after his brother, Edward (Guy Pearce), abdicates to marry a divorced woman, something that is forbidden in the British kingdom.

Fearing that his speech disorder would only humiliate George and discredit his authority as the throne, his wife Elizabeth (Helena Bonham-Carter) employs the services of speech therapist Lionel Logue (Geoffrey Rush), who has an unorthodox methods that he claims have been proven effective.

Although by law, Edward and King George VI are not equals in the British monarchy, the two break from their class distinctions and work together to overcome George's stammer even as British moves closer to war.

More than being a historical British drama, the film centers off as a powerful, touching masterpiece, thanks to its witty script and riveting performances from its main cast.

## Tour de force

Although examining the lives of royals and British monarchy always spouses our interest, the real joy in the "King Speech" comes from watching the tour-de-force performances of Firth and Rush, who play King George VI and Lionel, respectively.

We see the two stars off in their proper places—sitting and the subject, first at the story progresses, we see them set aside their old hesitancy and see each other as equals, at least in the office of Lionel.

Like two good friends consoling each other, they engage in an emotional battle. On one side is an uptight prince who never thought he'll be king, and on the other, a failed, whose actor turned-speech therapist who uses unconventional methods on his patients.

Lionel locates their self each other on a first name basis—"hey Bert, my sister"—to which King George VI, or Bertie, as he is commonly called, initially objects but later realizes the therapist may be his only hope and only friend in the world.

It is the unique relationship between the king and the commoner that becomes the source of the film's drama, joy and comedy. During their sessions, they argue history, share a few drinks, address progress on Bertie's disorder, exchange personal stories, and suddenly cross all corners after Lionel's persistence leads us to discover that George's horrible childhood may have been the main cause of his stammer.

But in the end, this is the predictability of a feel-good film, they find some-one-greater.

Firth couldn't have done any better in portraying and humanizing a King whose confidence has been dealt a serious blow because of his stammer. The distress between stylish, the words seemingly stuck in his throat while delivering an important address, and the embarrassment on his face...Firth delivers them perfectly.

Rush, as Lionel, is the exact opposite. He exudes the British eccentricity endowed all Australians, and provides the much-needed light moments and comedy in a heavily dramatic film.

The other cast members also give laudable performances. It's nice to see Bonham-Carter not in a bizarre outfit or as a merciless mood. She, instead, portrays a genuinely concerned wife who wants nothing but the best for her husband, their children, and the future of Britain.

We also see a stellar performance from Derek Jacobi, who plays the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Timothy Spall, who plays Winston Churchill, almost makes a parody of his role as he acts it out like he was in a cartoon.

**In the end, the film still belongs to Bertie and Lionel.** Everything else builds up to that one moment of both triumph and tragedy—where Bertie delivers his radio speech and declares war on Germany while being greatly guided by Lionel. Here, the two create the film's most inspiring moment, showing the culmination of all of their struggles together.

"The King's Speech" is exclusively showing at Glorietta 4, Greenbelt 3 and TriaNona.

# Visual Arts

## TUP artists at Kamalig

Arts Canyon Gallery presents "Hot Wires," a three-part exhibition of recent works by 32 artists from Technological University of the Philippines.

Part 1: "Wired Comes Alive" includes Dale Elegio, Jeffrey Jacob, Amber Lacbo, Pedro Monte, Johann Bonifacio-on, Jet Cruz, Lovie Perez, Roy Bonabesa and Jhon Tejones.

Part 2: "Changing Bridges" includes Rey Alejandro, Kate Cerbo, Jhenson Calibiran, Iska Rios, John Ho-ra, Kevin Bautista, Diego Rivera, Ian Ibrana and Erick Villarroz.

Part 3: "Strange Light" includes Ebrwin Collen, Grazes Iglot, Ronyer Valenzuela and Rikken Villanueva.

The show opens by invitation on May 30, 6 p.m., and runs until June 22 to Sunday-Monday, 9-5. Gateway Mall, Araneta Center, Cubao. Quezon City. e-mail exhibitions@artscanyon.com.ph.

## Eustaquio at Ateneo

"Land Pool" by Patricia Eustaquio, 2009 film. Finik Art Project residency grant recipient. Mixed media. 12"x12" drawn. Ateneo Art University Art Association Gallery. Quezon City. tel. 4266488 Ateneo Art Gallery. Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights, Quezon City. tel. 4266488 Art Gallery and Museum until June 9, 8:30 a.m.

## Basilio at Ayala

Fred Basilio's paintings are on view in "Fortress Series," which runs May 20-June 12 in ArtistSpace, Ayala Museum.

Abstract Realism is the artist's exploration. His work-es take on many roles and guises, from the spiritual to the earthy. Former Supreme are pure inventions, others have been culled from ecclesiography. Basilio completed his BFA, Major in Painting from the University of Northern Philippines. He has won 33 awards, including a certificate of merit from the Art Association of the Philippines and the UST Alumni Art Achievement award. For many years he served as the art director for a multinational advertising agency. ArtistSpace is at 3/F, Ayala Land of Ayala Museum. Call (02) 757-1117-21 local 26 or 28.

**HOMAGE** by Fred Basilio

## Porche Pisno's 'Bluenisere' II at Art Asia

The second highly successful "Bluenisere" Exhibit of Porche Pisno (executed from left) at the Philippine Center in New York will open June 4 at Art Asia Gallery in SM Megamall, in the run-up to the opening, "Bluenisere-para sa Kinabukasan," as an "on-the-spot painting on terraces of street children and out of doors pounds, will take place May 28, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at Rizal Martires Plaza in Naga City. Sponsors are SM Store, Subingsi Art Group and Alonso Artama. Bill. Exiting the ribbon at the New York opening are Lolita Morales-Lewis, Consul General Mario de Leon and Fr. Ernie Blas, parish priest of St. Mary Magdalene Parish on Staten Island. Looking on are Rosalia's son Porche Pisno, sister Minerba Pisno, cousin Angie Pisno, Reggie Zamora, Ana Divina Cruz, Pisno's mother Sylvia Pisno and Manuel Fontanos. Naga exhibit ends June 29.

## Angono tour

The summer tour of dioramas and antiquity organized by the Museum Foundation of the Philippines will be on May 31...8 a.m.-6 p.m. Angono is the hometown of National Artists composer Lucio San Pedro and master sculptor Napoleon V. Abueva. The tour will take you to the artistic and cultural highlights of these destinations. Fees: P1,000 for members and P1,500 for nonmembers. (tel. 8525666, 8570604 or 0920-3338811 or 0921-8464666, http://museumfoundationph.org/events).

## Silverlens joins HK art fair

Silverlens Gallery will be at booth 1.1608 Fri. to Mon. 11 May 26-29 at Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center. Featured artists are Frank Callaghan, Marciano Chino, Patricia Eustaquio, Alma Garcia, Luis Lorenzana, Nikki Navarroza, Dolmi Nunes, Gary Rees Pastrana, Hanna Pojadas, Yasmin Sison. Retrospectives and publications are the anchors of this year's presentation. All the works of artists Callaghan, Chino, Nunes and Sison point to the ever-presence of water and the range of human responses to this existence. Eustaquio, Garcia, Pedrajahe and Lorenzana bring us to an abstract realm. (tel. 8939-0104 or 8939-0105 and Pedrajahe are current hybrid photographs. (e-mail: isa@silverlensphotos.com; www.hongkongart2011.com).

## '10' at Yuchengco

"BAGONG Dawn," by Jose Tuazon

Thirteen '10' opens in Yuchengco Art Gallery (Ayala Museum). Bernardo High Street, Bonifacio Global City) tel. (632) 8211112, e-mail mail_ayalamuseum@ymail.com) on May 31. Featured presenters by Rene Cuva, Jayvee Hinolan, Tadio Magat, Joselito Jamayan, Hendrix Dorano, Jose Tuazon, Ronald Ventura, Nilo Ilarmendo, Leo Salvador and Ian Tuibaleno. Time to the mystical-magnificent of the number '10' in literature and the arts, each artist will exhibit a painting of Homonym's experimental foray into analysis, Cubist, fauvist adaptations of Lucio Corpuz' deviation from grotesque, Hernandez' hybridized abstractions, Cuvo' fantasmagoric characters, Hinolan's puzzle portraits and the Magat's inventory of works on canvas on Jamayan and Magat will be displayed along with metal sculptured assemblages by Salvador and the collaborative entries of Tuibaleno. The exhibit runs until June 3.

# A new cultural consciousness?

By Ricardo Pilo Buenviaje
Contributor

DOING: De la Torre, artist and shaman

"A NEW creative energy is emerging in culture and the arts," intones Gong de la Torre, cultural worker, arts organizer, shaman, visual artist, and former staffer of two Philippine Educational Theater Associations).

For him, it is risking the form of different artists, people from different organizations practicing toward one another.

"I think it basically stems from the perspective that there must be a better way of doing things," De la Torre says. "Things that worked in the past—like organizational skills—don't work out now."

Whether you are a painter, singer, actor, "the undercurrent, the overarching energy is, we want to express a better way of looking at reality, not to escape from that reality," says this artist-shaman (let us visualize and describe the hooves of European strapper he has just met).

His whole world, De la Torre claims, "is going through an old-age crisis, a midlife crisis, or may dagat ngayon, quarter life crisis." "The last refers to people in their 20s.

"I think more people now start young," he says with a laugh. "It's all about a crisis of identity, and cultural work is figuring out what is identity."

In his view, "the consumerist culture, the materialist culture napapunta na tayo sa sarili nyo [to overcoming itself]. May pagmumura [there is a desire] to get back on the basics, to go back to the land at the end of the day. It's the same thing all over: you talk to the Tasiday, the Mangyans, the tribes, the wise men, the shamans. Ganyan pa rin sa Africa . . ."

## Old tribes

The pessimistic backdrop, on the contrary as De la Torre puts it, is "a high pressure world in which many things are happening, more and more that is a general anxiety about climate change."

In search of his own identity, De la Torre has traveled all over the country and connected with tribes from Angeles to Malaybalay Bukidnon.

"If you look at the way the tribes close to Mother Nature do things, there's not much planning, you know, like old-line democratic corporate way of doing things," he notes. "They do things, they plant, they perform their rituals in rhythm with nature. I think

Mr. Edgardo Maroño, Jr., VP BDO Trust Banking Group, Cash Management, sharing the different products of that group that can help entrepreneurs in running their businesses.

## BDO's Business Mortgage Loan Kapihan in North Luzon

Mr. Edgardo Maroño, Jr., VP BDO Trust Banking Group, Cash Management, sharing the different products of their group that can help entrepreneurs in running their businesses.

Ms. Jocelyn Alvarez, Strategic Planning Consultant of Provincial Operations from the Office of the Vice Chairman of the Philippine Franchise Association (PFA), during the worthwhile franchise packages in Pampanga entrepreneurs.

BDO Business Mortgage Loan Sales Representative with BDO Corporate Lending Group Head, Antonio C. Tordesillas, BDO Business Mortgage Loan Business Head, Virgilio C. Panganiban, BDO Pampanga Area Head, Maria Theresa Gonzalez, BDO Provincial Business Center Head, Celso Tiamsing, Dennis Woods, and Francis L. Dung.

Canon
Delighting You Always
Canon PHOTOskwela 2011
FREE Photography, Videography and Scrapbooking Workshops
To learn more, visit Canon Facebook fan page: Canon Digital Camera Philippines

MONGOL
SAVE 75%
ON A GYMBOREE ART CLASS!
Each specially marked Mongol Crayons entitles you & your child to a fun learning experience at an exclusive Gymboree Art Class.
Present your specially marked Mongol Crayons at any Gymboree branch and get
✓ A free Mongol Coloring Kit
✓ 75% off on a Gymboree Art Class
✓ Bonding time with your family!

# Concert to raise funds for detainee Ericson Acosta

Violinist Gina Medina and pianist Mary Anne Espina will perform

ERICSON Acosta now in Calbayog sub-prefect jail in Samar (CHRIS LOPEZ)

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

MT. ERICSON, Emmanuel Tariman brags, didn't know too many things about his father, Ericson Acosta.

He didn't know that his father acted in several theater productions at the University of the Philippines (UP), including UP Repertory Company's "Sa Sariling Bayan," directed by Tony Toquero Dalisay; UP's "Green Bird," directed by the late Ojie Jo Isaac; and "Monumento," which Ericson wrote and directed. He also played the lead role of Andres Bonifacio in a multimedia production by UP Alay Dimog.

Ericson had a love affair with cinema. He took a crash course in theater arts with Peta even as an elementary school kid. In high school at University of Santo Tomas, he was active in campus theater.

After his term as editor of the UP College Diliman, where he was also editor of its University Belo, Ericson Acosta had more or less memorable writers for ABS-CBN's "Talented TV Pa-rod" and as assistant entertainments section editor of Manila Times.

Last Feb. 11, members of the 405th 14th Infantry Battalion led by 2nd Lt. Jacob Madarang arrested Ericson while he was researching on human rights in Samar. He was examined and in the company of a local barangay official when he was arrested without a warrant.

He was held for three days at the Calbayog sub-provincial jail without charges and was subjected to continuous torture to extinguish any life ordinary after three days. he was finally charged with illegal possession of explosives.

EMPOWERED... one of Ericson Acosta, during the press con, pressing for his father's immediate release

### Grievances

It took me close to two months before I could find the courage to break the news to my grandson.

Last April 21, the Free Ericson Acosta Campaign was launched.

In the press con, people gave statements. Pilar Ocampo, Ericson's teacher in UST, said he was an active campus leader who was well-mannered and couldn't deserve to be in jail.

A video was played, showing Ericson playing the acoustic guitar inside Calbayog jail.

Meanwhile, the cultural sector led by National Artist for Literature Bienvenido Lumbera, actors Eric Medina and Standing Israel, filmmaker Cecilia Mendoza Reyno and UP dean of Mass Communications Rolando Tolentino signed a statement denouncing the arrest and stilling for Ericson's release.

"Ericson deserves to be released, for his continuing incarceration is a grievous loss to the growth of a truly democratic art and culture of the Filipino people," said Lumbera.

Lumbera said he had known Acosta since his activist days in UP. He wrote a favorable review of "Monumento," written and directed by Ericson.

"This new administration is challenged to be different from its predecessors," said Israel. "Free Ericson unless only 'cause' to proselytely serving the least served, until jail without delay those who have greedily taken away land from the rubble of the poor."

"I know Ericson personally as a cultural worker," added Israel. "I am bonded by his sacrifices and his commitment to the poor."

### Denied rights

In his counter-affidavit filed last April 13 and signed by his counsel Atty. Edre A. Ericson maintained he was arrested without a warrant and was not doing anything illegal during the arrest.

He added he was not informed of the reason for his arrest, that he was denied the right to counsel and the right to make calls to his family or lawyer. He added he was subjected to interrogation for 44 hours.

Added Ericson in his counter-affidavit: "During initial interrogation, I was physically and psychologically tortured; I was deprived of sleep, threatened, intimidated, coerced and forced to admit membership in the NPA, the evidence against me—the so-called journals—was planted. The complaint against me was only filed to cover 72 hours and 36 minutes after my arrest."

My grandson finally visited his father at Calbayog sub-provincial jail May 1-3. He didn't look disturbed. Until the revelation.

Violinist Gina Medina and pianist Mary Anne Espina will perform in a special fundraising concert for the legal fund of Ericson. Manila on May 20, 6 p.m., at Bulwagang Kalinaw, UP Campus, Diliman, Quezon City.

Tickets at P1,000 (with buffet dinner) and P500 (concert only); tel. 7044152 or 0906-3194279.

# A new cultural consciousness?

From page C3

that's what city folk like to hear less."

De la Torre adds: "I think this is the time, this is the challenge of the new creative cultural consciousness."

### New players

So who are the players in this apparently new consciousness?

The cultural worker mentions cinematographers, political satirists and story tellers, a drummers' community circle, singers, dancers, visual artists, and so on.

"We are in the middle of new genres being articulated," he declares. "We are coming up with a new genre combining the elements of the oral storytelling (with no preconceived script) of theater and the capability of technology to capture the poetry, in other words, videography, documentation..."

These represent for him "the vitality, the diversity of our local cultures, emphasis on the plural. The Philippines is actually composed of different nations (tribes)."

And so, for la Torre tells the dramatis personae, players, individuals and groups of artists: "Let us just move regardless. Let's not even talk of money (he cited but failed to get funding from a local government body). Bring in your networks, films, drums . . . and from there let's see, let's just interact. Hopefully, by 6 or noon, we can come up with interactive pieces. We can share these, and later the marketing can come in."

Their unofficial headquarters is Chef Tatung's at 17 Shiloh St., Bluebird Village, Quezon City (tel. 9526132; www.facebook.com), a Buddhist Tibetan eatery and also an attractive garden restaurant which serves delicious gourmet food.

DE LA TORRE leads for new art genres.

# *Prisoner-artists hold exhibit*

"THE BEAUTY OF NATURE," by Ramon Gonzalvo

THE NEW Bilibid Prisoners recently launched the first exhibition of the Bahay Kwentuhan Artists (BKA), an offshoot of the Lamb of God Foundation, at the Social Hall.

The members are all inmates under maximum security. Under the guidance and tutelage of an NBP official, Jose Bliss Alcantara, who is also a Fine Arts graduate from Pasig University, the Bicky Group of Artists has produced commendable artworks in landscapes, still life, floral bouquets, and portraits in a variety of mediums. President of the BGA is Geoffrey Paredes.

The New Bilibid Prisoners at Muntinlupa City

ERICSON, known as head of UST Tanghalang Santo Tomas, at the junior-senior prom

Tattoo
LIVE WITHOUT LIMITS
LIFESTYLE Arts&Books
TIME TO REVEAL THE TRUE YOU.
Subscribe to a Tattoo Postpaid Plan and get a Tattoo Gift Certificate* that's valid for use at Swatch outlets.
Now, you can reveal your mark online and offline.
UNLIMITED PLAN | TATTOO GIFT CERTIFICATES
₱1500
₱2500
Log on to tattoo.globe.com.ph, call 730-1000 or visit a Globe Store
SARAH GAUGLER
Art Diva - Tattoo Presents
Globe
HUAWEI
Jeremy Scott for swatch
IZNOW

# Art and design come together for Unicef auction

By Doxie B. Hasilo
Contributor

REALIZE stories of maternal deaths happen in the Philippines. Whether the cause may be due to lack of skilled midwives in rural areas or inaccessibility to hospitals, death during childbirth is a reality countries for the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) Philippines.

Through the initiative of Inquirer Cecilia Ozaeta, Unicef special advocate for children, artists and designers have put their creativeness together for the hope of raising money that would benefit programs on maternal health and education in the Philippines' poorest regions.

"When you meet a husband who has lost his wife due to excessive bleeding and was not rushed to the nearest hospital, you start to think and realize that these things should not be happening in 2011," Ozaeta says.

Joining her is celebrity host and also a Unicef special advocate for children Bianca Gonzalez, who has been working with Unicef since 2007.

"Our work with Unicef is that we go with them on site sites—at public schools and daycare centers—and spread the word as much as possible on what's happening and how people can help," Gonzalez says.

Gonzalez adds that Unicef would like people to know the funds for its projects do not necessarily come from the United Nations but from donations by individuals, corporations, and donors.

## Hard work and perseverance

Unicef country representative Veronica Tobin says the project, Auction for Action, is a first for Unicef Philippines.

"This partnership with acclaimed artists via online auction helps us engage the public in a new and interesting way," Tobin says. "As well as raising important funds for our work, we will be able to raise awareness of important issues affecting children in the most disadvantaged communities of the Philippines and worldwide."

"I've been working with Unicef since 2007 and I'm very excited to be a part of this unique fundraising auction," Gonzalez says. "While online auctions are quite new in the Philippines, it's very exciting, and the best thing is you can participate from anywhere in the country."

But it was through the perseverance of Cecilia Paez that the auction will push through and go live online on May 25 via www.charity8.com/ct.

Cecilia Paez says she approached friends—via text, e-mail, Facebook and Twitter—who are artists and designers with the idea of donating items for the auction, with the hands bestowing Unicef's various projects.

"My head spins that first week—it was like I had a lot of favorite things from my favorite creative people," Cecilia Paez says. "I couldn't believe how easy it was to ask for help. The rest of the hard work is being done by the Unicef team. It has been many days and nights of coordination, planning and logistical problem-solving."

### Participating artists

Featured artists are Manny Baldemor, Michael Cacnio, Carlos Celdran, Sol Chua, Kenneth Cobonpue, Araneli Limcaoco Dans, Kristine Dee, Jenina Dizon, Mitch Dalisay, Tina Eppenson, Accessory Lab, Ito Kidlat, K. Billy Mantaloboda, Raimon Orlina, Debbie Ongpauco, Ling Quimpo-Reyes, Renji Reyes, Pepe San Fernando, Jerry Samson, Vito Selma, Victor Solomon, Paul Zigmon, Ricky Tabacda and Chito Vijandre of the

THE ULTIMATE SEMINAR ON HOW TO START A
FOOD CART BUSINESS
May 28, 2011 10AM-6PM
Tel No. 2554-0181/7 772-1813, 0922-8420778
Special Discount for Students and Couple
By Nate Alvarez, cooked-kuto-ney, Master Trainer

are you ready for the UPCAT?
increase your chances of passing...
with M.S.A Entrance Tests Review
for UP ATENEO De La SALLE UST
and universities abroad
M.S.A Academic Advancement
Programs
Grade School
High School
College
M.S.A
Now Open M.S.A. Taft
Manalo | Alabang | Cubao | Antipolo | Cebu | Sta. Rosa | D. Tuason | Rockwell Bridges

REAL HAIR. REAL RESULTS. NO GIMMICKS.
Call Us Now
706-1698
www.manicaraesthetic.com
FOR A FREE AND PRIVATE CONSULTATION

experience the SUN
experience VAREKAI CIRQUE DU SOLEIL
Life's brighter under the sun
Sun Life Financial

# Art and design come together for Unicef auction

From page D2

ma Felicia, Reg Neame, and Ocampo Pinol Inciardi.

Galerie Joaquin artists such Alexis Boitelle, Amiant Dellidio, Hannah Marbella, Dominic Rubio and Jeremiah Ramos are also participating.

Up for grabs in the auction are experiential packages, including dinner by chef Josephoy Jandoleno of Antonio's, and dugout experience with the Philippine Football Team, at Rizal, on July 3 at the World Cup qualifier in Manila.

"Thankful to have the art and Unicef's cause made this happen," Gonzales says.

Dasha Puey says some of them had any experience of pairing together an auction before, and thanks partner eBay Philippines for making it possible.

"This is like a dream for me—curating and organizing a show like this," Dasha Puey says.

And the same can probably be said for the beneficiaries of the auction.

TELEVISION personality Daphne Dasha Puey, Unicef special advocate for children, curates the events and designs up for auction.

UNICEF country representative Karena Tolos and Save the Children Philippines program for children and key priorities in education, health, HIV/AIDS and child protection.

# Santiago City of Isabela holds Pattaraday festival

THE CITY of Santiago in Isabela recently showcased character and unity in diversity in the event Pattaraday Festival.

"Pattaraday and for the city's 14 ethnolinguistic groups and because on the unity despite the ethnic and cultural diversity of its people," said Santiago City Mayor Amelita Navarro, who inaugurated the first festival in 2005.

The Ibanag word for "unity," Pattaraday was initiated by civic leaders, the art community, and the city government to showcase local identity and Santiago's origins.

The festival's focus was the Grand Character Parade, which highlighted Santiago's recent declaration as a character-city. A local government unit is declared a "character-town or city" if it integrates the development of the people's moral values in governance.

Navarro said the city emphasizes prayerfulness, obedience, bonding, perseverance, patriotism, honesty, responsibility, generosity, contentment and forgiveness in its programs.

The event also showcased Santiago's dedicated "La Oran Bandila" dance based on a Muslim-Moro dance tradition depicting St. James The Apostle's conquest of the Moors. The dance became the subject of research and performances of the famed Ramon Obusan Dance Ensemble, which includes to an international in Moscow in the 1980s.

The festival also coincided with the 17th cityhood day, as well as the patronal feast of St. James.

To perpetuate the spirit of unity and character among the city's constituents, she said that the Pattaraday foundation was formed comprised of private and government sector representatives.

GENEROSITY character Juan (right) Mayor Amelita Navarro at Bayo in Santiago

Adding color to the festivity were visiting festival dancers from Bora Elton of Cordoba, Sinulugan, Sinulan Festival of Mapandan, Pangalusian, Panagbenga of Baguio City, Pinalabgan Fruit Fair Peninsula City, La Union, Sinulog-an, Ilocano, and Northern Luzon University in Dagupan City.

Because of its rich historical heritage, the festival was named Best Tourism Event for three years, 2006-2008, by the Association of Tourism Officers of the Philippines.

Situated in the heart of Isabela, Santiago is the service center, agro-industrial and commercial hub of Cagayan Valley and the first town to be converted into an independent component city in the region.

The city is also home to Muslim, Chinese and Indian minorities, and a bustling art community, making Santiago a sterling pot in northern Luzon.

Official Festival Representative

Jeff Benjamin and Mark Patterson to Chair at Spikes Asia 2011 Entries Now Open For Spikes Asia 2011

16 May 2011 – Spikes Asia Advertising Festival, the regional awards and festival for creative excellence in advertising and communications, is pleased to announce the names of two more industry leaders who have been appointed jury presidents. Jeff Benjamin, Partner and Chief Creative Officer of Cracon Porter + Bogusky, and head the Digital jury and Mark Patterson, CEO of Group66 Asia Pacific, will chair the Media jury.

"We are delighted that two such high profile and experienced practitioners in digital and media will be leading the Asian at Spikes, where the work is an exciting and diverse as the region itself. We welcome Jeff and Mark to the Philippines and look forward to working with them both," says Philip Thomas, CEO of Clarion Loins, who with Haymarket are joint organizers of the festival.

Jeff Benjamin has been recognised nationally and internationally by every major industry award show. Awards include Five Grand Prix at Cannes Lions in three different categories. His work has been showcased in several publications, including The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Communication Arts, Time, and Newsweek. He has also been a featured commentator on CNBC. Jeff joined CP+B at the end of 2003 as Interactive Executive Creative Director. Now as Partner and Chief Creative Officer of Crispin Porter + Bogusky, he works on brands such as Kraft, Microsoft, Domino's Pizza, Coke Zero, and BestBuy.

Commenting on his appointment, Jeff Benjamin said, "I'm excited to be a part of Spikes Asia this year. The Asia Pacific region has always been a source of inventive and creativity for the entire world. And this year, perhaps more than others, it will be a source of inspiration for how the creative spirit triumphs in even the toughest times."

Mark Patterson, appointed CEO of Group66 Asia Pacific in early 2009, is responsible for all WPP's media assets in the region including MediaCom, MediaEdge:CIA, AKQA, MediaCom, MAXUS and Kinetic with combined billings of over US$1bn (RED MA) and just under 5000 employees. "I am looking for great work that worked in a market context. I am looking for real actionable insights and I am looking for media agencies to step up, and that ground strategy must be very proactive from an other agencies," said Mark.

Entries are now open. Jeff and Mark will join four other jury presidents and members of their respective juries to vote, discuss and award the winners at the Spikes Asia 2011 entries. From today, entrant companies can submit work in the following categories: Print, Print Craft, Outdoor, Digital, Direct, Promo & Activation, Media, Design, Radio, Film and Film Craft as well as the two categories that launch this year, PR and Mobile.

All entries can be viewed during the Spikes Asia festival. The winning work will be revealed together with Agency of the Year, Media Agency of the Year, Marketer of the Year and five more independent Agency of the Year, at the Esplanade Theatre, Singapore, on 26 September 2011. For further information on how to submit entries or register to attend Spikes Asia 2011, please go to www.spikes.asia.

SUZUKI Music Kids

# Storytelling sessions and classical concert at The Shang

SHANGRI-LA Plaza is broadening its holiday celebrations with a number of activities for mothers.

Motherhood Tales, a series of themed events for moms and families, highlights the valuable role of reading in kids' lives. At the Motherhood Tales Lobby, which will run until May 24 at the Grand Activity, there will be a mock living room, a study room and a nursery room to mimic the look and feel of key areas in the house where mothers read to, interact or read stories to their children.

A pre-Mother's Day culture, the exhibit brings together renowned, well-known celebrity mothers Nina Ilana Paial, Audrey Tan Zobel, Xandra Santos, Cathy Babao, Ann Stuparo, Lyn Ching Pascual and Shalky Pinpin Santos, as they share their literary inspirations and recommend good reads.

There will also be the festival Music Kids' "Sounds of Scotland" Concert on May 26, 5:30 p.m. at the Grand Activity. Presented by the Philippine Association for Intercultural Development, the concert features a 110-piece ensemble from Cartimarian Arambulo's Sacred Music School, which will perform musical excerpts from classics such as Mozart's "A Little Night of Music" sonnets and other well-known pieces.

XANDRA Santos

CATHY Babao

LYN CHING

Call 6339561 loc. 113, or log on to www.shangrila.plaza.com.

# East meets West in UST's international philosophy conference

By Lovine Lee
Cont Writer

THE UNIVERSITY of Santo Tomas is bringing the wisdom between East and West through what is probably the biggest gathering of philosophy scholars in Asia in the international conference "Thomism and Asian Cultures: Celebrating 400 Years of Dialogue Across Civilizations," which runs May 23-26.

The international conference is being held as part of the quadricentennial celebration of UST as Asia's oldest university.

In attendance will be the officers and members of leading international philosophical societies: Académie du Motif, Asian Association of Christian Philosophers, Conférence Mondiale des Institutions Universitaires Catholiques de Philosophie (Conference of Major and World Union of Catholic Philosophical Societies.

Since philosophy is the pioneer program of UST when it was founded in 1611, UST Department of Philosophy chair Alfredo Co stressed that "the achievements of philosophy, in particular in UST, should not be overlooked in the momentous fourth centenary of UST."

Co is also the convenor of the four-day conference.

"For a distinct and solitary discipline like philosophy, we could not think of a nobler participation than [this] international philosophical discourse in a philosophical congress," he said.

Scholars from various universities and cultural institutions in over 20 countries will tackle the transcendent significance of the teachings of the philosopher St. Thomas Aquinas, the Angelic Doctor of the Church, as well as the different topics in which cultural dialogues are feasible.

There will be 11 plenary conferences and over a hundred paper presentations in parallel sessions.

Plenary speakers are Rev. Gerald Gerry Hartley of University College of Cork, Ireland (president of Académie du Motif); Karl-Heinz Pohl of Trier University, Germany; Walter Schweidler of Katholische Universitaet Eichstaett-Ingolstadt, Germany; William Sweet of St. Francis Xavier University, Canada (president of World Union of Catholic Philosophical Societies); John Deely of Immaculate Catholic University; Peter Jaroszynski of John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Poland; Marcos Silva, chair of the philosophy department of University of Toronto, Canada; Tran Van Doan of National Taiwan University (president of Asian Association of Christian Philosophers); Xosé Bieito of Jesuit Deusto Philosophy, Pontifical Institute of Philosophy and Religion (vice president for Asia and Oceania of Comenius); Godfrey Ijaodola Onah, vice rector of Bonifacio Odumegwu in Benue; and Jesús J. Villa-Ghee of Georgetown University in Rome (president of Comenius).

## *PEN to launch Rony Diaz's 2nd novel*

Loudness meets Rony Diaz's highly intellectual approach to the writing of fiction.

THE PHILIPPINE Center of the International PEN will launch Rony V. Diaz's novel "The Adventures of Candida." The second to critique about the country's semi-feudal and semi-colonial society on May 28, 5 p.m., at Solidaridad Bookstore, Padre Faura, Ermita, Manila.

Published by Marilo Times, "Adventures of Candida" is a sequel to "At Play's End," which depicts the fortunes of an oligarchic family in Central Luzon before and after the war. With the landed family practically wiped out during the agrarian troubles, the main character, Candida, daughter of an impulsive cheatholder's, inherits the vast property of the Moret family. The novel entails the upbringing and cultural education of Candida, her experiences during and after World War II which render the continuing rifts in Philippine society.

Of the first novel, Asuncion Iavellana of Philippine Star says: "At Play's End' is a marvelous tale; a deadly serious one because it all too closely portrays a world that a community at war with itself through the class struggle and ethnic migration." National Artist for Literature Rosvenda Ledesma notes Rony Diaz's highly intellectual approach to the writing of fiction.

Manila Times literary editor Elmer A. Ordoñez says "At Play's End" combines a "socially relevant subject and superior artistry."

The book launch is open to the public.

# Art festival and bazaar on Reposo Street, Makati

GRUPO REPOSO, a community association of businessmen, residents and artists on N. Garcia Street (formerly Reposo), Makati, will hold "Bibliss Dining" art bazaar and festival on May 28, in connection with the celebration of Araw ng Makati.

Starting 10 a.m., the event will showcase visual artists painting on big canvases; book-crafts-art- bazaar; Alliance Francaise's screening of award-winning French films; arts-lecture series; and food fest.

At 4 p.m., LIG Design Plaza will hold an entertainment program, with actors-singers Pinky Amador as host.

Festival performers are Jon Santos playing "Antonio Ignacio Mascarina," Boy Peate and his band, Heber Bartolome, Noel Cabangon, DJ Singing Ambassadors, Pinoy hip-hop artists, and ethnic ensemble Teatro Bandanahan from Oriental Station City.

Ferdinand Garcia's 15 sculptures will be on view 6 p.m. at LIG Pavilion.

A leader of Grupo Reposo is Yael Lo of LIG Design Plaza, which houses 20 stores showcasing interior design, architecture, jewelry, furniture, antiques, paintings, dance school, photography studios and specialty restaurants.

Grupo Reposo Inc. is founded by gallery owner Ed Bobe as a nonprofit organization of artists and gallery/store owners based in LIG and other establishments whose buildings are along Vicente Garcia Street (formerly Reposo), Barangay Bel-Air II, Makati City.

This year's "Bibliss Dining" is sponsored by the city government of Makati, SM Development Corp., the National Commission for Culture and the Arts and LIG Design Plaza. Call 8900988, 8893772.

## UST national criticism workshop follows named

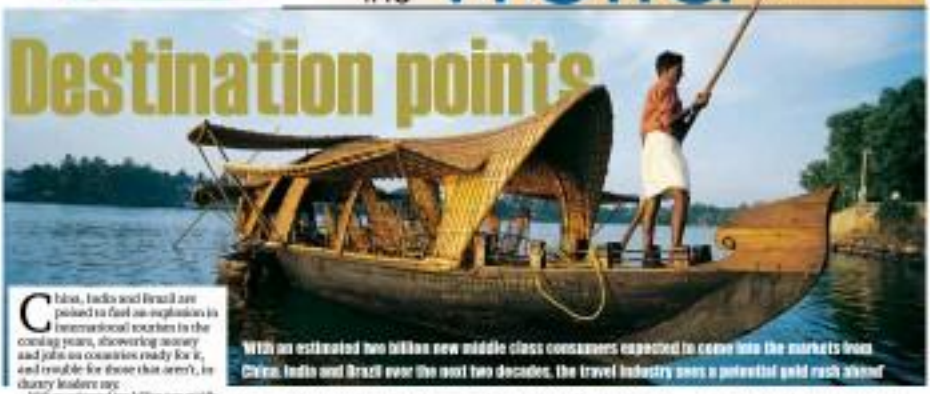
THE LIBERATI of Santo Tomas announce the follows to the 3rd J. Elizalde Navarro Workshop in Criticism on the Arts and Humanities:

Ma. Adel Abarro (UST), Stanish Campos (UP Diliman), Richard Earl Bonoy (UP Diliman/Korokuwan), Glaw Pesaris A. Dizon (Ateneo de Manila), Mark Dominic Lopez (Central Luzon State University/Science College, CSAC), Dawn Marie Nicole Marill (UST), Maanie Shumaravanath (UP Diliman), Mel Rolenan Orobevilla (Far Eastern University), Timothy E Ong (Ateneo), Elsa Reyeles R. Sequera (UST), Justin Oscar M. Salazar (De la Salle University-UP Diliman), Ruth Mellisa Tinsiano (UP Baguio), and Jose Ico B. Trinidad (Ateneo).

The criticism workshop, tilinale will be held May 29-June 4 in Baguio City is organized by the Varsitarian, the 83-year old official student organ of UST. It is held in honor of the late National Artist for the Visual Arts and art critic J. Elizalde Navarro, who was art editor and critic-at-large of the Varsitarian during his student days. The workshops are also held in connection with the 400th anniversary of UST in 2011.

Fellows are required to get in touch with Ralph Semino Galan (tel. 0920-9250650 or e-mail: ralphseminogalan@gmail.com).

# Discovering the World



## Destination points

**With an estimated two billion new middle class consumers expected to come into the markets from China, India and Brazil over the next two decades, the travel industry sees a potential gold rush ahead**

China, India and Brazil are poised to fuel an explosion in international tourism in the coming years, showering money and jobs on countries ready for it, and rewards for those that aren't, in chancy leisure biz.

With an estimated two billion new middle class consumers expected to come into the markets from these emerging powerhouses over the next two decades, the travel industry sees a potential gold rush ahead.

"The growth of China outbound travel is moving at a huge pace ... it is about 20 per cent increase every year. And the number of outbound Chinese travelers hit 50 million last year," said David Scowsill, CEO of the World Travel and Tourism Council, an industry promotion group.

"And if you look ahead, (with about) 1.6 billion coming out of China and India, they are a huge amount of people coming in with money to burn," Scowsill reported.

The Chinese tourist will be sure to crop up a lot of these days at global travel and tourism summit that opens here Tuesday drawing CEOs from many of the world's largest travel companies and top tourism officials.

The United States is awaiting Homeland Secretary Secretary Janet Napolitano, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and Salome Arena, a top adviser to President Barack Obama, Mexican President Fernando Calderon to the parcel of honor.

Barriers to travel, technological innovation and change, body blows in tourism in quake-struck Japan and the turbulent Middle East also are on the agenda here.

But suggestions are they want to get powers among officials and industry leaders thinking about a) what the arrival of the Chinese, Brazilians, Indians and others from newly affluent countries will mean for their national economies and the international travel business.

"We'll ask the ministers whether they are ready to absorb that level of growth," said Scowsill.

"Are governments ready with infrastructure build? Are private investors ready to put the investment in, and generally speaking are we ready to absorb that level of growth?"

Roger Dow, of the US Travel Association, calls the conflict between the projected surge in domestic and lagging infrastructure "a real challenge and egg." "As we build this story, we'll hope, we'll also have to take a real hard look at our infrastructure, our next generation systems for airports, and adding airport capacity," he said.

Comments that Asserted's outside executives are likely to be cleared with free-billing but knockout and even recruiting as millions of new tourists pour through the global travel centers.

Internally, said Scowsill, it is "the developed market leaders that don't fully understand the impact of tourism. They kind of take it for granted to a very large degree in terms of the developing world." The United States, for instance, has seen little growth over the past decade in the number of long-haul travelers it receives, at a time when the rest of the world has seen an increase of about 40 percent.

"Had we kept pace it would have been another 70 million visitors to the US. It would have been another 600 billion dollars in our economy, and almost 470,000 jobs," said Dow.

A major culprit, according to Dow, is a system for granting visas that is so grudgingly slow that it is driving away visitors.

After the September 11, 2001 attacks, the United States introduced requirements that every visa applicant be interviewed in person by a consular level official.

"The end result is we have over two-and-a-half times the interviews go up to 100, 120 days in Brazil and China," he said.

"In Brazil, there are only four places you can go for a visa interview. In China there are five. So the combination of the huge population, the huge demand, and the need for face-to-face interviews in very few places is what has created the problem," he said.

The US has released a report last week calling for an overhaul of the system.

It proposed hiring 400 more consular interviewers, allowing interviews to be done by videoconference, and adjusting visa waivers with Brazil, India and China.

"The Brazilian economy is roaring and people want to spend money they want to travel. And the two highest groups that spend money are the Chinese and the Brazilian travelers. They outpace other travelers in the world by 25 to 50 percent per person," said Dow.

How much political support there will be in Washington is uncertain, however, with suddenly deficit-conscious lawmakers in competition to make make painful budget cuts.

AFP

A general view of Galaxy Macau's new resort in Macau. The Galaxy Macau, a multibillion-dollar casino resort complex, operation May 11 in Macau aims to draw a broader mix of visitors than the high-rolling mainland Chinese who have helped the city become the world's most lucrative gambling market.

## Another glitzy casino opens in Macau

FLAWLESS! Hong-legged models adorned in peacock feathers, Hong Kong property and construction tycoon Lui Che Woo toss all caution as he opened the doors to his new $2 billion casino in Shunde last May 15.

Lui, chair of Macau casino operator Galaxy Entertainment, an empire of 28 projects owned by private equity group Permira, is the only operator to open a casino this year in Macau, the world's largest gaming market, which overtook tycoon Las Vegas last.

Designed as an Asian-style palace, the 910,000-square-meter property is the third casino to open on the developing Cotai strip, Macau's version of the Vegas strip and which authorities hope will transform Macau from a pure gaming destination into a renowned resort and leisure destination. "It doesn't feel like a casino, it's so beautiful" said Wei, a 30 year old male visitor from Dalian. "People become more tourists, bring their families. It feels comfortable."

Like glitzier cousin-rooms, Galaxy Macau's gaudy embossed interiors glow against the Macau skyline, magnifying the glitz of billionaire Sheldon Adelson's Venetian property and Melco Crown Entertainment's City of Dreams. All stay and with walking distance of each other. Macau, formerly a hotbed for piracy and smuggling, has been rising to upgrade its image with Michelin-starred dining options and vast luxury retail centers, all in a bid to woo China's rising middle class.

While around 70 percent of gaming revenue is still generated from the high-rolling VIP sector, Galaxy Macau is allocating two-thirds of its 418 gaming tables in the mass market, confident of delivering returns in the mid to high teens in the sector. Chief Financial officer Robert Drake said. Galaxy to move 2,200 room property, which incorporates international hotel brands Banyan Tree and Japan's Okura, to begin operations in early mid-February to help ensure a "super-balanced" property and tourism in the former Portuguese colony, said Galaxy vice chair Francis Lui. "If you merge Phuket or Thailand together with Macau it would create a one-dimensional kind of market. The example of Galaxy Macau is to bring the tropical mood to Macau," said Lui, also a member of the Chinese People's National Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

With its 350 tax-white retail brands, simulated sunset pool and southeast Asian resort-style spa facilities, Galaxy is hoping to entice niche markets in the Greater Pearl Delta region, emphasizing the health and well being of its visitors. But it remains to be seen whether the chain smoking hard-core gamblers that flood into Macau from the mainland will have significant interest outside the booming baccarat tables. "The casino is great, I am going to come regularly," said 27 year old Fabien. Dressed in a light blue t-shirt and fitted trousers, he shrugged. "I haven't seen the pool yet, maybe later." Galaxy Macau is following in the footsteps of rivals Wynn Crown and Sands China in targeting Chinese mass market, betting that improving infrastructure and consumer consumption will help propel demand.

"Galaxy's opening is also good for us, more people will come here," said a waiter at Adelson's Venetian. "It is exciting. We have been working three years for the opera. It is not a threat, just friendly competition." Galaxy shares have surged more than 300 percent over the past 12 months, compared with the Hang Seng Index's roughly 17 percent gain. Analysts remain bullish on the China's prospects. "We think the property has potential to exceed revenue and cashflow expectations," said Union Gaming in a note.

Galaxy's new project only covers around a third of its available land space on the Cotai strip. It plans to develop the rest of its land bank over the next seven to eight years.

REUTERS

## Japan starts campaign to lure back tourists

JAPANESE BUSINESS leaders launched a campaign to woo tourists back to Japan after the devastating earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster that sent foreigners fleeing the country.

"I would like to say: Japan is safe," said Atsutoshi Nishida, the chair of Toshiba, told a high-powered gathering of travel and tourism executives and officials from around the world.

Accepting the group's invitation is how the next Global Travel and Tourism Summit in Tokyo in April 2012, Nishida said he hoped to welcome participants to a Japan as "full strength" by then.

International travel to and from Japan plunged after the earthquake-quake March 11 off tsunami, Japan that sent a tsunami surging through nuclear power complexes along the coast, magnifying a disaster that killed 15,000 people.

While tourism represents only a small part of economy impacted, it is an important benchmark of confidence in Japan.

In the immediate aftermath of the quake, the number of tourists arriving in the country dropped by more than 50 percent, and leisure travel collapsed by 90 percent, according to the Japanese Tourism Agency.

Japanese departures from the country were similarly hit hard, killed by US percent in March from the same month in 2010.

There were tentative signs of recovery in May, and Japanese officials said that travel during the Golden Week holiday in late April and early May when Japanese celebrate Japan's National Greery Moments, were better than expected.

But Defard Economics, in a study released here Thursday, said the experience after other major disasters shows it can take as long as two years to get back to normal.

"Recovery rates depend not only on the extent of the damage caused but political support to rebuild infrastructure and promote travel and tourism, and crucially on the perception left on the traveling public by the disaster," it said.

It said it took four years for New Orleans to return to its pre-Hurricane levels of tourism after Hurricane Katrina.

Japanese officials said their campaign to bring back tourists will begin with education campaigns to dispell what they say are patriotic misperceptions about the effects of the nuclear disaster.

Only then will they proceed to ad campaigns and other efforts get tourists to come back, they said.

Naoyuki Yamada, of the Japan Tourism Agency, said the government has budgeted seven billion yen, or about 7.5 million dollars, this year for the effort.

It was clear from the presentations that the Japanese representatives see fears over the lingering effects of the nuclear crisis as the biggest hurdle to overcome. AFP

## Asiana expands US flights

ASIANA AIRLINES (OZ), Korea's second-largest national carrier, has announced expanded flights to the US beginning this May. From five flights weekly to San Francisco and to Seattle every week, the airline will now be flying to/from Incheon International Airport.

Asiana will also be deploying its newly redesigned B777 which features the OZ Quadrix Business cocoon for Business Class to its San Francisco routes.

Passengers will experience greater comfort and convenience through this unique shipped seating layout. OZ Quadrix Business class features full flat bed type seats typically found only in First Class...as well as a dining table, cocktail table, storage area for shoes, PC/power outlets, and USB ports. It also allows the passenger to move more freely without disturbing other passengers.

Asiana Airlines has also announced the addition of a daily flight to/from Incheon/Chicago flights. Departure for Chicago will now be 13 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and arrival by 9:40 a.m. (local time). Departure for Incheon will now be at 12 a.m. with arrival the same day at 4 p.m.

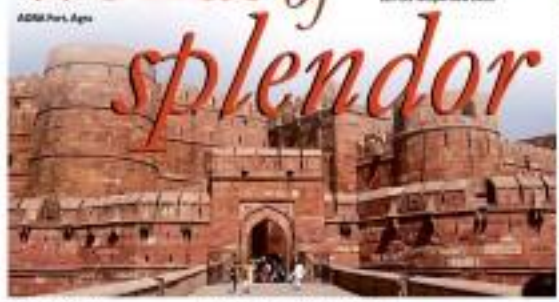
The expanded flights are in anticipation of spring and summer travellers, as well as Asiana Airlines' own initiative to make flight schedules more convenient.

The airline flies out of three points in the Philippines: Manila, Cebu and Iloilo.

## DELHI-AGRA-JAIPUR

# Worlds of splendor

LOTUS Temple New Delhi



AGRA Fort, Agra

HAWA Mahal, Jaipur

SAMODE Palace, Jaipur

INDIAN Jewelry

By Marie D. Salazar

There is something about the past that fascinates people and connects us to the future. The sheer extent to see testament to India—Delhi, Agra, and Jaipur—represent everything that India is: splendid.

Tourists can go back in time by just visiting the centuries-old palaces and temples. These magnificent structures boast of fantastic intricate designs and stone sculptures. Modernity has also ushered India with new and state-of-the-art buildings both for the arts and other services.

### Delhi

Being the capital of India, it is expected that people will definitely visit Delhi. While Delhi embodies the modern world with trendy hub contemporary buildings, a part of it also speaks of India's glorious history.

Aside all the modern facilities, Delhi prepared itself with the influx of tourists and it's been experiences the high life with international hotels and spacious watering spots, limousines, luxury coaches, urban entertainment and more. Travel is made easy with convenient autorickshaws and taxis as well as land.

One of the most imposing structures, and a must-visit, in the Indo-Gate, a memorial of the First World War where the seat of power and government is also located. Also here is Jantar Mantar, old observatory, Rashtrapati Bhawan, and the North and South Blocks and the Parliament House.

The Gallery of Modern Art, just near the east of the Indo-Gate, houses really great paintings and sculptures of eminent Modern India.

Delhi is also the window for India's rich arts and crafts culture, specifically at the Surajkund Craft Mela. The vote of contemporary art by Connaught Palace gives a peek of the diverse arts and crafts of the different states of India.

For those who are on a bargain hunt, Dilapati is the destination where people can find a huge variety of novelties, gifts, and handicraft items.

HUMAYUN'S Tomb

### Agra

There are many reasons to go to Agra and one of them is the world-famous Taj Mahal. It was built for everything that it stands for, a testament of love. It's not named as one of the eight wonders of the world for nothing. The architectural superiority of this monument of love has been the breathmark for other structures in the world.

The road to Agra is teeming with religious cities of Mathura and Vrindavan, celebrated in Indian lore and legends.

Another famous destination that should be included in the itinerary is Fatehpur Sikri, a total 40 kilometers from Agra. It was built in 1570 and was first known as Sirohadeal.

The Agra Fort boasts of its red sandstone walls and almost defines the city. The four-in-a-Unesco-World Heritage Site was surrounded by the river of Yamuna in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh.

Travelers can get hold of any previous stones and semi-precious stones in the Agra. The marble and solidarity inlay work and the intricate designs are found in the area.

### Jaipur

Color, fun-of-it, defines the city of Jaipur, rooted in so-called the Pink City. There are really huge forts, exotic palaces, temples, and of course, gardens. Tourists will be overwhelmed with the majestic forpalaces and other jaw-drop pinpointed cultural masterpieces.

Jantar Mantar is an open-air observatory of outsized astronomical instruments. Aspirants who want to see India in a different light can spend the night at the observatory and just marvel at the skies.

Amber Fort is a prime tourist destination simply because it is perched on top of the hills overlooking the Maota Lake. Its artistic style and other ancient elements are few of the reasons to make one. The fort has imposing series of gates and cobblestone paths.

The shadows on the carvings of Hindu

QUTAB Minar, New Delhi


Let the laid back waters move you

Explore nature in its most pristine state. Discover stillness stirring your soul.

India Tourism, #01-04 United House
20 Kramat Lane, Singapore 228773
Phone: (65) 6235 2800 / Fax: (65) 6235 0677
Email: infosg@indiatourism.com.sg

Incredible India
www.incredibleindia.org

With the new Tourist visa-on-arrival facility for citizens of Philippines, India is now so close to home. Be there to discover the charms of Incredible India.

TAMLAWAN villager dances in a mess played out by native gongs.

STAMP from NCCA dances with the natives.

PAINTS graffiti spray paints on wall.

# Tam-awan and Cordillera arts featured in National Heritage Month

By Brylle B. Tolentino
Correspondent

HUNDREDS of art enthusiasts gathered at what has been called a haven for artists in Baguio City during the second Tam-awan International Arts Festival held May 14-19.

Under the auspices of Chanrobles Foundation and as part of the National Commission for Culture and the arts (NCCA) Heritage Month program, the three-day event had as theme "Weaving through the Arts."

Founded in 2008 by Chanrobles Foundation, Tam-awan Village is a tranquil art treasure sitting on Baguio City's higher grounds enchanted by a canopy of evergreen. It's really a colony of folk and modern artists.

The celebration kicked off with a cotton strand of killing a native, done to open a festive day. A group from the Kankanaey tribe circled around the bug and some while they performed tribal dances and chants of their rituals. After completing the rite, they untied the native's neck and it bleed gushed out.

They cooked the carcass above a blazing flame while arranging the lower parts of the animal, which were turned to the guests. This officially marked the opening of the festivities.

During the opening ceremonies, NCCA executive director Malou Jacob said she believed the Philippines was the richest country in the world when it comes to culture and arts, and said she wanted to preserve them by giving support to emerging artists.

"What we will do to nurture the needs of culture and arts will save the country" said Jacob. "One of NCCA's projects is a grant-giving program that is already open until August."

### Folk artist vision

New NCCA chair Felipe de Leon Jr. cited the metaphor given out by the NCCA such as General Manlikha ng Buyan (Continue) but, the folk artist version of the National Artist awards, which are given out to practitioners of the classical arts.

"[Similar] is limited on artists from the mainstream areas who are practicing their art that they would pass on to people," De Leon said. "It is to evolve and keep the tradition going."

Folk artists such as Benji Lopez, Mark Tandoyong, Tara Lalaine Lubtelad, whose art works mainly portray the culture of the Cordillera Region, fill the art gallery in Tam-awan Village.

Wandering around the village, one can definitely get a sense of Cordillerans culture, from the masks and costume to the wood carvings and sculptures scattered around the area and paintings of emerging artists hanging everywhere.

There were also some public demonstrations of folk weaving, carving, solar painting.

The night ended with some singing along and drinking among the guests and the artists present.

The second day opened with another cotton ritual, after which students from Kabayan Resource National High School gave a tribal dance and played native instruments as some bystanders joined along.

When we got back to Tam-awan Village, NCCA officials had officially opened the art exhibit, which would add to the numerous artworks displayed in the village.

On the last day of the event, a group from the Ifugao tribe gave a dance performance while playing some ethnic musical instruments.

Jeremy Sobkoing, a professor from University of the Philippines-Baguio, gave a presentation on how to play the different classical ensembles of the Cordillera Region.

The three-day event ended with the unveiling of art installations by 10 artists.

### Graffiti in traditional arts

Graffiti and traditional arts may be at the opposite ends of the pole, but Mark Tandoyong has found a way to integrate the type of modern art with the culture and the arts of Cordillera.

Tandoyong, a member of Tam-awan Village for 15 years, struck up the idea of having a Graffiti art display he and other artists would put up on the wall adjacent to the village.

He contacted some graffiti artists. Despite no compensation, the artists said they were happy to be able to showcase their talent in Graffiti Art without any pressure.

In the installations, the artists' artworks depict their personal advocacies that, together, constituted the wall/room artist.

Forming the letter P of the word, Nikko Ramos's art work of a character with a squid for the head was a representation of the different things he wanted to express through his art.

An enemy against the government's "strangling authority," Syd Arvin Nikee Darino's alien character for his the first letter A, exposing the monsters thriving in government.

Stating the booming population in the country, Denise Fernandez has "Umapaw," make reference to flood, which embody Filipinos exploding to number He said there had a negative connotation of being abundance. His work represents the letter M.

Ryan Arrones, whose artwork forms the second letter A in "Tam-awan," shows his feminist advocacy through his Frida-inspired painting, saying Frida is a shining character of womanhood through her strong opposition to the oppression in Art premises.

Giving Cordillerans arts a twist, Lian Lorenzana made a "M"-shaped dressing of a bride which he painted pink. Legend has it that the sculpture of the bridal can make those who touch it sick.

For the third letter A, Demeterio Campos shows his love for his son. Bjork in his beautiful portrait of him on the wall. He said painting his son's portrait there showed his deep longing especially when they would be away from each other.

Capping the collaborative graffiti mash-ups the letter N, Tandoyong, a Painting graduate showed visual arts, wanted to put a balance between traditional and modern arts with a painting of a yellow alien. His artwork depicts a person's alienation from society.

WEAVING and exchange

DANCING with native wears

DANCING with gongs

BUSY! Sobkoing demonstrates Ifugao musical instruments to festival visitors

TAM-AWAN villagers try African percussion instruments.

# ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

## Nora Aunor: Will she or won't she?

FOR THE past few weeks, there has been incessant chatter about the homecoming of singer-actress Nora Aunor, now based in the United States. Aunor's return was supposed to coincide with her birthday this month. But at least three sources have told the Inquirer that it would "take a little more time." Her friend Jerrman Moreno said discussions with a local network are ongoing. Another confidant added that she's still undergoing vocal therapy, preparing herself for the big comeback. A network insider said negotiations would commence soon for reborn

Bayani San Diego Jr.

# Gaining but winning

As 'Biggest Loser' host, Sharon Cuneta goes to the heart of the matter—emotional eating

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

AS MTRCB's enforcer, Sharon Cuneta would really put it: "Buster here . . . dare ours."

As host of the new ABS-CBN reality show "The Biggest Loser Pinoy Edition," Sharon explained that she could very well relate with the 12 contestants on the show—who've embarked on a 12-week weight loss journey on national television.

After all, the Megastar, as she is popularly known in the biz, has undergone amazing highs and lows in her never-ending battle of the bulge—also, in front of a viewed public through the years.

"I was nowhere near the weight of the contestants, but I know what they're going through," Mega professed.

During her launch as endorser of Marie France, Mega candidly discussed her ongoing fight with fat.

Although she was "basically a happy-and grateful person," the friend herself struggling with weight issues after giving birth to Miel six years ago.

She admitted that her main problem was "emotional eating."

Whenever she would suffer a career se-

GAINING 11

# Keempee faces pressure

By Marinel R. Cruz

KEEMPEE de Leon has admitted to feeling the pressure of playing lead in a remake of a TV series his father helped popularize in the 1980s.

Keempee takes part in the "reimagining" of "Idol Bidol," the situational comedy show that aired on IBC 13 from 1977 to 1988. It featured comedians Tito Sotto, Vic Sotto and Joey de Leon (collectively known as TVJ) and centered on their lives as students (Tito and Joey finishing and Vic flunking) at the fictional Bimbol University.

"There's definitely pressure to do good, not just on me but on the producers of this show," Keempee told Inquirer Entertainment during a recent media gathering. "This happens to be one of the most successful sitcoms on local television. That's why we're trying to make sure everything is perfect, especially the script. We took pains in rehearsing before each taping."

### Seven personalities

Unlike the original show, which centered on Jun Aristorenas, the new version evolves around seven personalities. The good-looking but nerdy Jude Valentino Fredericks Luz, the youngest professor to teach at Bimbol University; the often notorious Baldomero Artes, Enjoy Hunt VIU and Club LEnjoy Underground; the "shoot-guy" son of the dean, Wacky Bogie Bocanegra, who works as a trainee's assistant; the student janitor Jose Donald Napoleon; sports chic Shania Constance Elisha Sheldon; and the ultra-assertive prefect Ina Jimbo Joe Regine Angelica.

Keempee said the show's producers, Archangel Media Inc., "requested" him to be join the cast. "I had planned to take a break from doing more gay roles. That was why I agreed to do [the] sitcom, but I just couldn't say no to doing 'Idol Bidol.'"

Keempee hosts "Lucky Numbers" on TV5 and "Tuli Bida-pat" on GMA 7.

"TVJ had a big role in the remake [on] the air, all, this was their show." One of the producers is reportedly the son of Tony Tuviera, the man behind the longest-running show, "Tuli Bida-pat" where the dean [illegible] on hosts.

KEEMPEE de Leon

KEEMPEE 11

GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS

A. LIPIN — BY JOS. AMASH

FUSAO BABOY — BY PAL LIMOS

DICK TRACY

LOVEBYTES — BY ELIZABETH CHECINSKI

BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT

RHINO MACHINE — BY THIAGO ABREU

BEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON

MUTTS

SHERMAN'S LAGOON — BY JIM TOOMEY

DUSTIN — BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER

TAGLIOK — BY MARA COLL

## ASTROGRAPH

BY FRANCOISE DYSAD

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** This is full of bright inconsequence. The Moon trines its birthplace here, some of which are disquieting. Its beautiful things are dark. Romance and coincidence are to extract definitely.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** You are unusually diplomatic and charming today. You have the energy to communicate with others and the grace to be considerate of your feelings. People admire your composure.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Decent, clandestine love affairs might take place today. However, some of you with just ample symbols in beautiful surroundings.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Take it a wonderful day to communicate with others, especially in group situations. People are friendly. In fact, a friend could become a lover. (Wow, wow!)

**LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)** At times or someone is suddenly caught quite your positive focus on something. However, you're not in the mood for discussing a crisis on a home or collectively regular thinking.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)** Heartfelt conversations today. Even many misunderstandings. Worries, outbreaks and public fun. Be aware your appreciation of beauty is definitely heightened. Make yourself surrounded by beautiful objects and colors.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** You're an excellent day for discussions about inheritance, corporate matters or how to secure joint financing.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Business and co-workers and confusions at work are excellent today. In fact, people love your ideas! You might see ways to make where you work become more attractive.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Romance is in the air on the new, fresh, more social vibes today. Say a name, watch some movies, go out and have fun. It's a fabulous for some. Invite people at your home. Enjoy your life!

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)** This is a good day for restorative work. However, it's the perfect day to entertain at home. Invite lovely members over. You'll also enjoy redecorating or tweaking your décor.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)** Many of you can make money here writing, calling or communicating today. You're very busy, and you're extra discussion with others. Those who excel in sales, marketing, speaking, writing or communicating will be in strong demand.

**PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)** This is a wonderful day for business and commerce. Act on your moneymaking ideas. Some of you also will make investments in your home. It's a good money day!

## CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

**HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU**

All the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to yesterday's puzzle

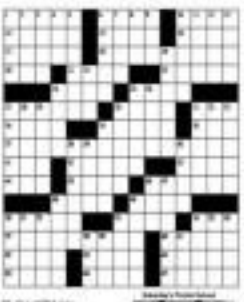
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| 8 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| 2 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 3 |
| 5 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 6 |
| 7 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
| 9 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| 3 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 8 |
| 6 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 2 |
| 1 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 9 |

**Conceptis Sudoku** By Dave Green

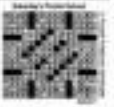
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 7 | 8 | | 6 | 3 | | |
| | | 1 | | 4 | | 7 | | |
| 5 | 2 | | | | | | 6 | 4 |
| 9 | | | 6 | | 2 | | | 8 |
| | 7 | | | | | 9 | | |
| 2 | | | 7 | | 1 | | | 3 |
| 8 | 3 | | | | | | 4 | 7 |
| | | 9 | | 8 | | 1 | | |
| | | 4 | 3 | | 5 | 9 | | |

Difficulty Level ★

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved



# Honor students shine in new 'Millionaire' quiz show

VIEWFINDER

*Nestor U. Torre*

LAST May 15, we had a fun time watching the comeback staging of the popular quiz show "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire" on TV5, especially because its contestants were young honor students.

While the questions' degree of difficulty was appropriately awkward, some of them were still difficult for the young contestants to figure out in diretso — and, more to the point, even for their adult resource persons when they resorted to the "Phone A Friend" lifeline.

In it was a testament to the young contestants' "smarts" and lucky breaks that the first two of their semi finals with P500,000 and P950,000, respectively. Even more affectingly, it looked like some of the kids really needed the money — why, one of them even had to share one pair of shoe with an older sister; they were that strapped for cash.

While the show did share the young contestants' tales of woe, it was in the production's credit that it did so simply without resorting to hotbox and excessive heart-tugging. In addition, the kids earned our respect by not riding on their poverty to win viewers' votes.

They were simply smart kids who came up with the right answers — and ended up winning a lot of money for themselves and their families.

In fact, if they spread or moves their winnings well, they could turn out to be lifechangers, and that would really be a blessing to behold!

### Good with kids

Quintessential Vic Sotto showed his scrupulous flair for giving the show the right combination of wry humor and authority. It turns out that he's particularly good with kids, so the production should continue featuring young contestants for a few more weeks.

To be fair to the contestants, however, the production should give more time to its "Phone A Friend" lifeline. Last May 15, all of the resource persons failed to be of any help, because time had run on us down.

New lifelines like "Ask the Audience" and "Switch to Another Question" proved to be more helpful, as they should be retained.

We daresay, however, that some of the questions asked last May 15 were too difficult for young contestants to answer correctly like the name of the first space satellite (Sputnik 1), simply because the events they were associated with happened too long ago for kids to be able to conclusively know. In, some updating is decidedly in order.

Having said that, however, we must state that a young contestant did get the correct answer to a question involving the art practiced by National Artist Napoleon Abueva (sculpture), just because "we're long the by-boards."

So, there's that factor as "stuck in 'Millionaire'," too, and we trust that it'll continue to kick in to help other needy kids under a lot of much-needed money for themselves and their loved ones, enough to turn their lives around.

## Keempee . . .

From page E3

### New faces

"A lot of people are expecting this to be the same as the original, but it's not," Warnerpre said of the remake directed by Dante Nico-Garcia and Joey Tapacio. "If we opted to just copy it, we might as well have the old cast. The show introduces new characters, new faces."

To also make every episode of "Iskul Bukol" a worthwhile watch each week are characters like Sengkoreng Bing (Joel Saracho), the unfortunate's partner of dimwitness; the cafeteria owner Aling Francia (Tess Antonio) and her assistant Pet Jacobs (Jao Mapa); dogcatcher Kenneth Paras (Jason Abalos); and Kenneth's love interest Ana Feleo (Jessy Mendiola).

Keempee was 14 when "Iskul Bukol" first aired on TV in 1999; he joined his dad in the sequel, "Bantatan Iskul Bukol," subsequently between seasons.

### Father's advice

Joey's advice to his son: "Try everything...do drama and comedy shows, learn dancing, singing and hosting. Dad said only then would you have a long career (ang tatagal nitong tatahuhan). I'm glad I took after him and was able to develop all these skills."

One innovation on the show is the Weird University's coed dormitory, where the characters encounter some misadventures and develop unexpected friendships.

"There's also a plan to invite TVJ to appear as guests," added Keempee. "I don't think they can turn this offer down. The episode with them would be like a reunion of some sort, but the script has to be really good for the three of them to agree."

"Iskul Bukol" will premiere tomorrow, after "Magkaagaway Bukidnon" on TV5.

## Gaining . . .

From page E3

back on whenever a project would flash out...she would turn to musicians. "I have a music torch and continued myself with both."

### Crash-dieting

She also blamed "crash-dieting over the years. Whenever I needed them for the...the...the...I would go to crash-dieting. Hahaha!"

Humor became her solace. "I would laugh at myself first before allowing other people to crack a joke at my expense."

Behind the laughter, however, was a very private pain.

At the same time, she had to contend with mild life crisis, she said. "I was too ashamed to admit it. I'd look at myself in the mirror and ask: 'Why did I let myself go?'"

Later on, she came to terms with the reality of aging. "Everyone grows old. I've realized that: you can be may age and still lead a productive life. It pays to have a happy heart. It's important to be at peace with yourself as you grow old."

It's all about having a positive outlook, she stressed.

With the help of Marie Frasier, she hopes to shed the pounds "slowly but surely. This is only the beginning of my weight-loss journey."

She has "no illusions and no inventions." "I know I can't be super skinny. I'm not Angelina Jolie or Sandra Bullock. But I want to be healthy for my kids—to play and keep up with them," she said. "I'm even looking forward to my first spa (grande kid)."


POWER PLANT CINEMA

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES — STOP

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES — DP

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES — DP

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES (3D) — STOP

IN THE NAME OF LOVE / SOMETHING BORROWED / BAT 8 / FASHIONISTA — STOP

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES (3D) — DP

NEWPORT CINEMAS

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES — 3:15, 6:30, 9:45, 10:45

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES 3D — 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN — 12:15, 3:15, 6:15, 9:15

IN THE NAME OF LOVE — 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

SHANG CINEPLEX

GREENHILLS CINEMAS

THEATRE MALL

PROMENADE

Sagada Weaving

Robinsons Galleria

Ayala Center Cebu

Robinsons Place Manila

Robinsons Place Ermita

Robinsons Place Iloilo

Robinsons Place Bacolod

Robinsons Place Dumaguete

Robinsons Place Antipolo

Robinsons Place Pampanga

Robinsons Place Lipa

Robinsons Place Cagayan de Oro

Robinsons Place General Santos

Robinsons Place Roxas

Robinsons Place Tacloban

Robinsons Place Dasmariñas

Robinsons Place Imus

Robinsons Place Calamba

Robinsons Place Naga

Robinsons Place Butuan

Robinsons Place Zamboanga

Robinsons Place Iligan

Robinsons Place Puerto Princesa

Robinsons Place Tuguegarao

Robinsons Place Dagupan

Robinsons Place Angeles

Robinsons Place Malolos

Robinsons Place Santiago

Robinsons Place Cabanatuan

Robinsons Place Lucena

Robinsons Place Legazpi

Robinsons Place Tagbilaran

Robinsons Place Ormoc

Robinsons Place Bacoor

Robinsons Place Marikina

Robinsons Place Las Piñas

Robinsons Place Pasig

Robinsons Place Valenzuela

Robinsons Place Malabon

Robinsons Place Navotas

Robinsons Place Pasay

# The Pinoy in 'Mildred Pierce'

Kate Winslet tries TV with ex-'crush' Guy Pearce

By Reese G. Velarde

LOS ANGELES, California—Oscar-winning actress Kate Winslet ("The Reader," "Titanic") was in Los Angeles early this month for the Television Critics Association—all-night, via satellite from Paris. But certain Guy Pearce ("LA Confidential," "The King's Speech") and Evan Rachel Wood ("Across the Universe," "Thir Blood" 1, and filmmaker Todd Haynes ("Far From Heaven," "I'm Not There") were present, and the affair—Winslet's feature(-length), HBO, had invited journalists from around the world to sit in as it presented a glittering slate of new programs.

The Haynes-directed, Winslet-Pearce starrer, "Mildred Pierce," was one of the star-studded HBO offerings. Big names from a few other shows who were sitting in separate panels that day included Tommy Lee Jones and James Gandolfini. No wonder the Langham Huntington Hotel in Pasadena was abuzz, and the electric excitement was felt as one walked across the main lobby.

Kate is made up of about 2000 lit and Guy—just journalists who cover television, programming. It was a big gathering, thus a high-ceiling ballroom had been equipped with tables and somewhere for some 200 laptops, more than a dozen mini-along the aisles, and a video wall on the huge stage. Translation? Insular? There were some, still, it could be the show for a grandeur of a UK summit.

### Soap flavor

"Mildred Pierce" is a five-part original miniseries running to Asia on HBO and HBO HD on June 9, with a special two-hour premiere starting at 9 p.m. It is both Winslet's and Haynes' first venture into television.

Tony Ambolis, president of HBO Miniseries, told the gathered journalists: "Todd came to us [and] presented this story of a mother's (Winslet) epic battle to earn her daughter's (Wood) love and the immense power the daughter exerts by withholding it. While James M. Cain's original novel, 'Mildred Pierce,' is set in The Great Depression, this clearly has great resonance for our times still."

Major aspects of the story recall stuff that Pinoys love in their soaps. Betrayals entanglement, for one. The daughter falls for the mother's second husband. Is that just to spite mom, or does she have true feelings for the older guy (Pearce as Monty Beragon)? Plus, Mildred Pierce is a totally disillusioned woman who succeeds financially but fails miserably in love.

Excerpts from the interview:

* * *

Kate Winslet (on the video wall): I can't see any of you, which is really upsetting because I want to kiss Todd and Evan and Guy. [Kisses fingers]

**Todd Haynes: We're kissing you back.**

Evan Rachel Wood: We're kissing the screen.

* * *

**Did you have reservations about working in television for the first time?**

**Haynes:** No. I'm a great fan and consumer of television. I love serial drama. It was a challenge [for] my cowriter Jon Raymond and I just to balance out all this material in a five-hour sort of spectrum where you have to have ending for each [episode] that makes the viewer want to see the next one.

**Winslet:** It certainly never occurred to me, "Wow, this is television, therefore, it's going to be different." But we had more to shoot, and we had to work a lot faster, on the level of basis that we all had to have sex as much more in terms, [basic-particularly since Mrs Pie here's a part of Trivelling you, television is much harder.

**Pearce:** We had a rehearsal period—which you don't get for every film that you work on, and which achieves so much. It always surprises me that [for films]... you discover what you can—most common start rolling, which often feels too late. So to have a week to just sort of few things out beforehand means the edge is definitely taken off the shoot.

**Don't you wonder...we've had Australians play English or American [characters], [now we have an] English woman playing an American. So accents mean anything anymore in movies today?**

**Pearce:** Only if they get them wrong.

**Haynes:** It wasn't an impediment to me for casting these amazing actors. I've used them explore dialects and regional specificity in many, many different roles. From here had to speak a very specific dialect that no longer exists.

**Evan, this is a bold depiction of an often ugly mother-daughter relationship. Was that appealing or scary to you?**

**Wood:** It's a very intense relationship... daunting, but playing opposite someone like Kate made it a little easier.

**Did the two of you discuss the psychology of the relationship?**

I think we both drew from personal experiences. Everyone has a complicated relationship with their mother, especially daughters. It comes with the territory.

**Does Veda have true feelings for Monty?**

I think she does. I think losing her mother's husband makes him twice as [desirable]. She jumps at any chance to get a dig at her mom, so

TOOD Haynes (above) says he had no problem casting the British star Kate Winslet (with female photo) as an American.

AT LEFT, Winslet as Mildred Pierce with Evan Rachel Wood, who plays her obstinate and spiteful daughter.

TAKE FIVE

**The scene where Mildred discovers Veda and Monty is devastating. But what's most shocking is that your first made terror was for "Mildred Pierce" and not for "Titanic."**

I was a lot more nervous than I thought I was going to be, but Kate was a great coach. After it was all done we had a cocktail and she said, "Cheers to your first full frontal!"

Guy, Kate confesses to having a teenage **crush on you.**

And we share birthdays so we have an odd connection as well. When people talk about chemistry between people, we really felt a connection.

**So, Kate, you have a history with Guy...**

The dressing Guy Pearce, who happens to be my best friend[sic]. He played Mike in Neighbors 2" I would like them to stay off school and watch the 3 p.m. show, then watch the 5:05 gym repeat. Obsessed! And then I realized we had the same birthday—that was it. He was coming on the white horse!

**What do you and Mildred have in common?**

Her desire to be successful comes from this incredible survival instinct, which I do share a little bit. My parents didn't have money. I did grow up with very little and so I was able to connect with Mildred on that level.

"Mildred Pierce" seems to beg the question: **Can a mother love too much?**

Every woman has a mother whom they will have an issue with. It just depends on how you choose to process the lessons that you learned from yours.

GUY Pearce as Monty Beragon, Mildred's lowlife ex

# ENTERTAINMENT

FREE PIZZA!
for every pizza & Pasta purchase with your
PALM
SAVE
P1,995
• For only P379
• Valid for 6 months on Takeout & Delivery
• Call 971-11-11 for more details
Pizza Hut DELIVERY

## What celebs would do if the world were to end tomorrow

THE CRAZY story about the end of the world (May 21, 2011) spread like wildfire. For some strange reason, we Pinoys are suckers for such absurd tales.

Be that as it may, that preposterous prophecy is a timely reminder that life is indeed too short to stay too long in one place and spend it with one "face." It prompted me to ask some celebrities about the one thing they've never ever done that they would do if the world were to end tomorrow.

Hmmm ... I would snatch my true love (as we of mine before he got married) away from his wife and spend the last few hours with him and my kids. In every my world ended when I bid him or it's but fitting to be together when the world really vanishes.

**DOLLY WOOD**
*Dolly Anne Carvajal*

Before it's too late, we should live on the edge and risk it. As when we look back, we can really say that we lived well. Life is a terrible thing to waste.

**Dingdong Dantes:** "I would share my heart."

**Nicky Hernandez:** "I would tell my loved ones all the craziness things I haven't told them before. Then we would look back and laugh at the silliest episodes in our lives, while shamelessly feasting on the yummiest but most cholesterol- and sin- and sickness-laden desserts."

**Martin Nievera:** "I would love to open up wounds and hospitals all over

WAIT 11


# Being sexy has never been this easy!

Now, every body can be sexy with no needles, no blood and no surgery! That is the very promise of Sexy Solutions non-surgical fat removal center.

Established by Cristalle Belo Henares, daughter of beauty doyenne Dr. Vicki Belo, **Sexy Solutions offers body-contouring treatments that give you fast and remarkable results – up to 2 inches per session!**

Unlike other clinics, Sexy Solutions takes special care in making tailor-fit solutions to change your lifestyle. Based on your personal goals and body type, you get a combination of treatments coupled with a customized diet that addresses your specific body issues. After all, not all bodies are the same.

Sexy Solutions offers 3 different treatments that work to effectively remove fat and give you the sexy body you've always wanted. Depending on your specific goals, you get a personalized combination that will work best for you.

The first treatment is called **Lipo Cavitation.** It breaks down stubborn fat cells in areas such as the abdomen with the use of low frequency ultrasound.

The **Multi-Firm** treatment on the other hand, uses radiofrequency to tighten skin and improve the appearance of cellulite through heat waves.

Lastly, you get the **Body Sculpt treatment** which uses muscle energy pulses that achieves contraction of the muscle layer to reduce the size of fat cells. It also pushes the fat layer against the externally applied mechanical pressure of the applicator causes a "bypassing" effect of the fat layer.

With these treatments, you see dramatic results instantly! See for yourself – even right after your treatment. So if you need to fit into a dress for a Saturday event, you can have a session on Friday and look fabulously sexy in your dress at the snap of a finger!

More than getting instant results, they make sure you don't only get the fat off, they help you keep it off!

Unlike other clinics, at Sexy Solutions, they don't stop with the treatments. They have tied up with US Certified Fitness Nutritionist and weight management specialist Nadine Tengco who will give you personal consultations for best results. You can also choose to include in your program healthy meals made especially to help you keep your sexy new body.

Aubrey Miles, Jenny Miller and Bela Padilla are the three sexy endorsers of Sexy Solutions. Indeed, they are living proof of how well the treatments and programs work.

**Get that Sexy body today!**
**For inquiries, contact**
**810-SEXY(7399)**

50% off on all Body Treatments
from May 15 - June15, 2011

# ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

For ticket reservations and screening schedule pls. visit: www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on

GALLERIA

MANILA

METRO EAST

NOVALICHES

FORUM ROBINSONS

STA. ROSA

LIPA

DASMARIÑAS

STARMILLS

IMUS

ANGELES

TACLOBAN

DUMAGUETE

BACOLOD

ILOILO

GENSAN

ILOCOS NORTE

# SM CINEMA

visit: www.smcinema.com

NOW SHOWING

Catch it at

You may also buy your movie tickets online via SM Cinema's Cinemobile.

Movie tickets delivered to your mobile phone, only through www.smcinema.com

EVENT

Join us for

PO'S SCHOOL OF AWESOMENESS

SM NORTH EDSA
THE BLOCK ATRIUM
May 25

IMAX

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 4

## metro manila

## luzon

## visayas • mindanao

HOTLINE: 470.22.22 / WEBSITE: www.smcinema.com
Get them at any SM Tickets Outlets nationwide!

VISIT www.smcinema.com AND PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS ONLINE.
PAYMENT WAS MADE USING VISA AND ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED

OFFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF FOOD AND DRINKS AT ALL SM CINEMA LOBBIES

# Film as timeless beauty

## Leading ladies recall making Gosiengfiao's 'lost' movie on women

**By Bayani San Diego Jr.**

SCREENERS Gloria Diaz and Vilma Santos have fond memories of Joey Gosiengfiao's "lost" movie, "Relasi ... Separasi at Rekonsiliasi," which was screened by the Society of Filipino Archivists for Film (Sofia) at the Cultural Center of the Philippines on May 14.

Diaz, one of the trilogy's stars along with Nida, Chanda Romero and the late Charito Solis, wasn't her grown-up children to watch her 1979 movie. "They often ask me why I play second fiddle. I'll have them to watch my old films so they will realize that I was once a lead star. It'll be good for them."

Diaz was a bit "scared about showing an old film to young people because they may find it dunday (corny). Unlike me ... I think vintage films, starring Marlene Dietrich for example, are beautiful."

Based on Nick Joaquin's short story "May Day Eve" and scripted by Jose F. Lacaba, Erao's episode is "a period love story with a touch of suspense." Solis and Nida's episode is based on Jaime Laguio's short story "Wedding Dance," and Romero on "Wakwak Babaylan's Tuego de Perenia."

"At first, I wasn't too crazy about doing it, but Joey had this novel and exciting power," Diaz looked back. "He said his goal was to direct me."

She recalled one scene where the director placed the camera on the ground. "I was worried my body would be exposed. I cried, Joey, I'm not a sleaze trick. He his answer was before my he quipped: 'The cheeps the better! It'll make the films fat."

Tiredness, she called Gosiengfiao's works. "I'm not surprised his films are being revived on TV and the movies. He was ahead of his time. People found his films campy, but they're a lot like Italian comedies."

### Smart, lovable

She described the late director who passed away in 2007 as "smart, lovable."

Weiss agreed: "I worked with both Joey and Tata Esteban and fellow filmmaker/DJ, Soxie Perez. Howard is Fun and Flamboyant, Joey, on the other hand, was more subdued and serious. But he was a good guy."

Weiss recounted that she was a newscaster when she did "Relasi" released in 1977.

Although it was a short role, she noted, it was memorable because it gave her the chance to work with acting greats Bobi and Hevia Fernando.

"The veterans taught me the real meaning of professionalism. They would arrive early and prepared on the set. They were serious about the craft."

She recalled that "Chato Bichi' nickname) was mortified by and not interesting at all. "She scolded her famous longue on these to us."

Now it's her turn to pass on those lessons to younger costars. "I've come full circle."

She counts herself lucky that she was able to welcome the second golden age of Philippine cinema. Sadly, she noted, a number of 1970s and 1980s films are inaccessible today. "I don't have print copies of films I produced like 'Paradise Inn' and 'Pieta.'"

Aliw, who studied filmmaking, feels it's important to support the archiving efforts of groups like Sofia: "I believe in film preservation. I know that setting up a national archive costs a lot of money."

She's glad a "lost" film has been found. "I want to watch my old films and appreciate them—this time, as a student of film," she said.

Next films to be screened by Sofia is Dingdo Angeles' 1976 musical "Sinco" on June 11—taking with another rediscovered 1980 Angel roots romp "Summer Love," starring Bluboi Jurisms, Jennifer Sevilla, Gabby Concepcion and William Martinez.

In July, Sofia will mount a retrospective of films directed by Bernardo Bayo and O'Lamo—both members cited by Bernardo Bay Jr.

E-mail bayansandiego@hotmail.com

GLORIA Diaz in a bathing scene in "Relasi"

SCENE from "Relasi": Bernardo Bobbie leaves the foot of Gloria Diaz

## What... From page F1

the country in areas where free education and medication are both geographically and financially impossible."

Paola Bolivares: "I would gather people who I have yet to apologize because of pride or anger, and in another room gather people I know I may have offended or can point in my life and profusely apologize."

John Estrada: "I would gather my family and kids and we'd jog out till we die. I'd buy a very expensive car and have a jumble of duo. I'd give all my money to the poor."

Richard Gomez: "I'd buy a sailboat, spend the last remaining hours in the boat with Lucy and Juliana, and all the food we want and take lots of pictures."

Alex Siguerre: "I'd shop 1023 designer 'must-on' all my credit cards."

Mark Bautista: "I would conquer my fear and go skydiving."

Diana Stamoure: "I would bring my whole family from Brazil to the Philippines and show them the beautiful islands and make them meet the warmest people in the world so they would understand why I am away from them."

Yolin Inocin-Suhoo: "I have to try scuba diving and paragliding."

Mr. Fu: "I would pamper myself and pray so that I will be beautiful inside and out on our final day. I would also declare it a 'No Diet Day. Make rap jams mag-pack-up ng gatorts, dahon ang bahin at love love ang gawin!"

Gloria de Castro: "I would try skydiving."

Thom Sorbano: "Nothing actually. I've done things I wanted to do and I am still doing whatever it is I feel like doing. I don't need to wait for the end of the world before I live life to the fullest."

### Tap bands, singers

Catch some of the country's top singers and bands at The Establishment at the Net this month: Side A vocalist Joey Generoso and bossa nova singer Geri on "Acoustic Wednesdays"; Spirit of '87, "Retro Thursdays"; Kitty Girls and Monkey 4:0, "Dusty Fridays"; and Zoo Band, "Retro On Saturdays." Log on to www.establishment.com.ph or call 844-9390.

E-mail: wearingbold-change@yahoo.com

Ayala Malls

MOVIE TIME

GLORIETTA 4

1) PRIEST (2D)
2) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
3) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
4) SOMETHING BORROWED / THOR
5) THE KING'S SPEECH / FAST FIVE
6) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
7) IN THE NAME OF LOVE

GREENBELT 3

1) FAST FIVE
2) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
3) THOR / FAST FIVE
4) PRIEST (2D)
5) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES

GREENBELT 5

1) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
2) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
3) THOR / FAST FIVE
4) PRIEST (2D)
5) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
2) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
3) PRIEST (2D)
4) IN THE NAME OF LOVE
5) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES

AYALA CENTER CEBU

1) RESERVED
2) PRIEST (2D)
3) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
4) IN THE NAME OF LOVE

MARQUEE

1) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
2) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
3) THE PRIEST
4) IN THE NAME OF LOVE

MARKET! MARKET!

1) PRIEST (2D)
2) FAST FIVE
3) THOR
4) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
5) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
6) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
7) IN THE NAME OF LOVE

TRINOMA

1) SOMETHING BORROWED / THE ENCLOSED
2) IN THE NAME OF LOVE
3) PRIEST
4) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
5) THOR / FAST FIVE
6) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
7) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES

ABREEZA

1) PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
2) PRIEST
3) IN THE NAME OF LOVE
4) SOMETHING BORROWED

For ticket reservations or purchases, text SureSeats to 2910 (for Globe and Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com
Movie schedules may change without prior notice.
For verification, please call 729-7777.

*Reservations open on all branches open. Purchases open for M Pass cardholders only.

MOVIE SPECIAL

idiot nuh Great PG!

MALL EVENTS

GLORIETTA
GREENBELT
MARKET! MARKET!
AYALA CENTER CEBU
TRINOMA
MARQUEE
ABREEZA

MALL SPECIAL

It's always U-First at Ayala Malls.

Glorietta Greenbelt Alabang Town Center Ayala Center Cebu Market! Market! Bonifacio High Street Trinoma Marquee Abreezo

Visit www.ayalamalls.com.ph or text AYALA MALLS to 2848

Tara na at mulit-Fiesta! muli...

# CHERRYMOBILE festival



PROMO EXTENDED UNTIL JUNE 5, 2011

www.cherrymobile.com.ph

LEARNING
Editor Chris Bariel Ferreras

**IE Journalism Workshop**

Elementary and high school journalism teachers and/or advisers of school papers who preregistered and confirmed attendance should be at the Inquirer building on Chino Roces Avenue corner Tegue and Mascardo streets, Makati City, at 10 a.m., Tues., May 24. Bring your teacher's ID and certification from your principal.

# The *other* Arcellana

Text by Linda B. Bolido
Photos by Lyn Riñon

THE ONLY SUMMA of the Class of 1948, Arcellana made headlines on her graduation (above, left) in the living room of her UP Village home beside a portrait of Fruto

Some other woman could have been relegated to the background, occasionally "dusted off" to be displayed as public events to bask in the reflected glory of a learned husband.

But while the late Francisco Arcellana might have been a National Artist for Literature, his wife, the former Fruto Antonia Yuvienco, was never a simple appendage.

In fact, although Fruto, as the eminent literary figure was popularly known, was already being hailed a genius on campus at the University of the Philippines (UP), then still housed on Padre Faura in Manila, it was Intercollegiate who would make history as the state university and even make headlines on her graduation.

Already mother of two graduated in 1948, she graduated with summa cum laude honors for getting a weighted grade average (WGA) of 1.811 (actually 1.038). The grade was just slightly lower than the perfect but one of Leopold Sevilla, a mathematics professor and former dean of the country's first actuaries.

Arcellana is assured recalling the fine line generated by her accomplishments in 1948, including front page newspaper stories, but she clarified that the parents of the Philippine Sen. Manuel Roxas, told her, "If you need anything, just come to Malacañang" promising to give her whatever job she wanted.

And his wife, Trinidad, taken presented coverage by the top graduate, said, "Coming from you, it's a great honor."

Decades later, the 87-year-old UP professor emeritus is once again amazed that her feat is being talked about following the recent graduation of Ador Gabriel Peñas, IV, another mathematics major, with a WGA of 1.016.

## Mother's joy

While Arcellana herself talks mutedly about her accomplishments, she exudes "my mother (the late Maria Rilla Angeles Yuvienco) was elated" as bouquets filled her home after the newspaper story on the first summa cum laude of the 1940s came out. In the clinic, the last graduates before the state university system made its home in Quezon city its main campus.

The portrait of a bluestocking does IAH in Political Science degree was none. Lord of devotion for Arcellana, who was studying to be a lawyer before World War II broke out. She had already received an Associate in Arts (AA) in Political Science certificate and was in the first semester of freshman law when her plans drastically changed.

The climax of the Japanese invasion not only cut short her law studies but also frustrated her marriage to Fruto. With the news getting worse every day, she says they were advised "formalize no ligay ng partner. Ang may boyfriend mag-asawa na." (Better get your own partners.)

"Those with boyfriends should get married.)

At 17, she was told she would be quite vulnerable as the women had a thing for young women.

The early part of the war was spent by the couple moving from one family's house to the other, depending on which area was most at risk from the advancing enemy forces. Eventually, after Manila was declared an Open City, they declared their own "liberation" from in-laws.

After the war, Arcellana did not resume law immediately. In UP, she taught a law degree, however, had to be abandoned now that she was a wife and mother.

"I just wanted to graduate," she says though she had to juggle her roles as student and homemaker. "Nganoon akon (going to UP), I was a student. Pahalib (going home), I was a housewife" as she would pass by the market after her classes and buy fresh vegetables.

Since she already had an AA and the UP, including its library and other academic resources and facilities, was so badly devastated as the rest of Manila, she decided to "maximize the advantages of my position (progressive)", completing the requirements for AB in just three semesters.

She took the normal academic load of units some subjects, as well as all the other requirements ... physical education, militarism.

"I learned to swim and dance" — PE, she says. She even played hockey.

She was also active in theater. Before the war, one of her theatrical works earned a rave review from the student's Fruto, published in his column "Art and Life" in the pre-war Herald Midweek magazine.

FOR OTHERS

Long before the karaoke and the videoke, a Pinoy invented an electric keyboard that was an organ that was a horn that was a violin that was a whole band in one music machine! People called it the "one-man-band" because it gave off a complete band sound. I drums included! 3 playing just one piano-like machine. Any singer could enjoy a whole band as back-up with just one instrument.

He may not have noticed that his sharp idea may have been written with a pencil made by Filipinos too!

Ang talit ng Pilipino!

T-Pencil
The only pencil made in the Philippines

Available at all leading bookstores, department stores, supermarkets and stationery shops
www.apoquin.com

PROUDLY GREEN GROUP Standing (L-R): Tara Cervantes, Gerry Consaja, Andre Rafer, Oscar Lagman, Aga Arellano, Maxine Blanco, Quinti Hurtado, Mike Enriquez, Bardrey Aravena, Tina Rueda, BJ Ledesma. Boy Galan, Omar Quiogan and Cesar de Larrazabal; seated (L-R): Olga Diaspora, Robert Sena, Ivy Alvarez, Ronnie Raymundo, Ea Manawaran and Fritzi Peñarte

# A musical history of the evergreen university

By Tara Quintanilla

IN 70 minutes, the last 100 years of De La Salle University (DLSU) will be recapped in a musical that commemorates magnificus as well as incidents from the 1940 measure as the university chapel in the school's first basketball victory.

Nine-one of the country's top universities, La Salle is staging a grand retelling of its first century in the Philippines in the one-night-only show "Proudly Green" on June 11.

The event is expected to draw some 5,000 alumni at the DLSU Convocation Center in the SM Mall of Asia Complex in Pasay City.

The show is one of the highlights of DLSU's year-long centennial celebration that started to launch with the university's alumni homecoming.

"We will take you back to 1911, take you back to [Br.] Jose Aetnay, to the first nine girls entered the La Salle campus. Then we will bring you to today, and end with everybody's courage saying the power of a dream does not end tonight. It [so] it actually starts for the next 100 years," said Pilo Velasco, La Salle high school alumnus who was asked to compose and direct the play.

"I think anyone who will see (the play) will realize [even if they are not from La Salle] why all Lasallians are proudly green," said sports analyst Quinnie Henson, "Proudly Green" spokesperson.

In a mix of live action and video, the play will recount La Salle's history in lyric theater, using Sen's world music to create a variety of genres—Broadway, rock, pop and gospel. Lyrics were "retrofitted" to fit the storyline, as guitarist said.

"The presentation will tell the story in song. The entire show will not feature a spoken word. It will all be song," said Velasco.

The musical will feature alter-with a cast of some 40 performers, mostly La Salle students and alumni from different campuses, including singer Ramie Raymundo, who returns to theater, including Sherman couple Jose Alvarez and Isabel Seña, will play runners.

"The show does not have star value. I want the show to stand by itself," said Velasco.

The musical would be presented on a specially designed stage awash in the university's colors, said the director.

"I think the color green is something that we are all proud to wear. It is a symbol of hope. And every time there is a La Salle homecoming, we talk about the green, green grass of home," Henson said.

DLSU was established in the

STARS OF THE MUSICAL (L-R) Alvarez and husband Seña (partly-hidden), Diaspora, Manawaran and Raymundo

A MUSICAL to

## 13th Kumon National Educators' Conference

"I think all kids can become special if we allow them to be." When Teacher Irene met Ruby Magsaysay, she had to learn to let go of her preconceptions. After all, this boy who so desperately clung to his mom on their first visit to Kumon would eventually become the youngest Math completer in the Philippines to date.

Teacher Irene Delgaco's story is just one of the many inspiring tales told in Kumon's 13th National Educators' Conference held at the Marriott Hotel Manila in Pasay City, last April 11, 2011. More than 200 Kumon instructors and staff attended the event which theme for this year was "Every Student, Beyond Grade Level."

The conference is conducted every year to provide an opportunity for Kumon instructors all over the Philippines to convene and learn how to further improve their instruction skills. This year, Kumon is gearing towards one direction: "ensuring that each child reaches his/her full potential."

The Jose Rizal-level in Kumon refers to the level where a student can advance on his or her own, without constant supervision. It is not necessarily the level at which he or she can easily finish work.

Several instructors shared their insights from their first-hand experiences with Kumon students. Some were recognized for their 10 or 15 years of passionate service with Kumon. Their dedication to their students' progress and the efforts that go to overcome obstacles were highlighted and celebrated in the event.

KPI President Takeshi Nakamoto, through his opening remarks, addressed the important roles instructors and assistants play in nurturing the potentials of every Kumon student. He shares that while Kumon remains open to changes, its "principles of pursuing students' potential will never change."

Mr. Nakamoto shared KPI's vision that extends beyond the halls of the organization. "Nurturing self-learning ability in every child for a successful life that is rich in positive relations to Philippine society."

The message of the recently concluded National Educators' Conference can be summed up in the words of Teacher Irene's, "As educators, as Kumon instructors, I believe that we have a greater role in shaping the future and preserving the life of the child's best for it."

To know more about the Kumon method of learning, visit ph.kumon@ymail.com.ph or call (02) 881-0226

# Playgrounds for the MIND

## Member Schools

## Miriam College hosts forum with atom bomb survivors

MIRIAM COLLEGE recently hosted the visit of eight survivors and the daughter of one survivor of the atomic bomb which was dropped on Japan in 1945. These surviving veterans and called Hibakusha. The visit was part of the Peace Boat, a Japan-based international nongovernment organization that promotes peace and sustainability through the organization of peace voyages around a large passenger ship.

The Peace Boat was founded in 1983 by university students in Japan when the Cold War was getting underway, unaware to their counterparts in Japan during World War II. Since 2008 the organizers have invited Hibakusha from Hiroshima and Nagasaki to join the "Global Voyage for a Nuclear Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project."

Last February some 1,000 participants boarded the 15 Oceanic in Yokohama and visited Peru, Colombia, Spain, Italy Greece, Turkey, Egypt, India and the Philippines. In each port of call, the Hibakusha participants gave testimonies and exchanged views with students, officials, members of civil society organizations, and people affected by nuclear tests. And onboard the cruise ship, they held workshops and young participants in Project Children Organizer for Global peace cranes, a symbol of peace) by making and listening to testimonies, holding workshops, and linking the atomic bombs to other global issues.

On Wednesday April 13, they docked in Manila on the last leg of their 66-day voyage. At that point, some 200 young participants of peace organizations like Zero One Youth Empowerment Organization (ZOEO), Development Alternatives for Women Newly Empowered (DAWN) and End Child Prostitution and Trafficking (ECPAT). In the afternoon all the Hibakusha participants were with students of Miriam College, their teachers and support staff plus peace advocates from other parts of the Philippines, including Mainland College graduate Karen Tanada who now heads the Gaston Z. Ortigas Peace Foundation. "We are here to learn from the wisdom of the Hibakusha and of the Peace Boat about the need for peace and for nuclear disarmament," said Dr. Lorena Cacio, director of the Peace Education Center at Miriam College in welcoming the delegates. Dr. Loreta Castro cautioned over the school's donation to the Peace Boat victims in solidarity with victims of the recent tsunami and earthquake, seen as the biggest crisis of Japan since World War II.

Maximizing the time available with the visitors, the students asked questions at the open forums and interacted with them over snacks of pulahoi, lumpia, coconut cake and colorful puso. They also welcomed the young delegates of the Peace Boat. Several Miriam College students also went to the evening send-off program entitled "Wishes of Hope and Lasting Peace to the People of Japan" at Piet Arca, Manila. They stayed for the farewell rites, waving good-bye and catching the bright ribbons thrown from aboard as the ship whistled and moved out.

### SAN BEDA HOLDS HANDS-ON LIVELIHOOD SEMINAR

As part of its effort to bring income-worth skills to the community, San Beda College Graduate School of Business gains a training seminar on "Food Processing" for 45 mid-level managers in pursuit of the College's 2nd May 1. The event was spearheaded by Fr. Ramon Rosario Fresnoza, Rector of the SBCM Archabbey, made possible with the sponsorship of Congressman Cesar S. Sarmiento from the Lone District of Catanduanes.

### Free short courses from Acsat

9:45 AM, the Asian College of Science and Technology (Acsat) will provide free online-edited short courses to all its students enrolled in any of its 2-year or 4-year courses. Taking into consideration the economy, the need to offer value for money, and quality education to its local students and their parents, Acsat opens free short courses to all its students. Aside from being enrolled in their respective undergrads programs, students benefit from having additional relevant skills through these free short courses, thus giving them additional advantage. Their main campus is located at Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City. Other campuses are in Dumaguete, Cagayan De Oro and Cabanatuan. Visit us at Booth 13, Call 911-ACSAT/911-2278/736-3838 for further details.

### Riding high on Usaid-GEM's JEEP

AT LEAST 100 incoming students of the JEEP programs coming from various colleges of the Western Mindanao State University (WMSU) were awarded certificates of completion during the first culminating activity held on April 2 at the Dr. Juanito Dalmo Campus, WMSU campus. JEEP is a two-year non-degree English language proficiency program of the Usaid's Growth with Equity in Mindanao (GEM) program, in partnership with WMSU and its other colleges and universities in Mindanao. It aims to increase the graduates employability in industries that require English language proficiency.

### Telus Phils, DLSU launch scholarship program

Telus Int'l Philippines (TIP) has partnered with De La Salle University (DLSU) in creating a part-time student scholarship program that offers subsidized Lasallian education and part-time employment at TIP. Through this scholarship, quality education is offered not only to Telus team members, but also to deserving incoming freshmen students who will take degree courses in interdisciplinary business studies, international studies, or information systems at DLSU. Aside from the subsidized education and employment opportunity, the scholarship also includes a monthly subsidized allowance. Selected student-scholars will be given a monthly stipend and a part at TIP during their second year. This scholarship program is undertaken as part of DLSU's Student Sustainability and Resource Training (START).

### CAS student wins 2011 Ms MSEUF crown

SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD psychology student Nicha Sandra Tangpuz the Cal region of Iloilo and Soccsksa won the Miss Universe University 2011 crown, recently before a crowd of 7,000 at the University Gymnasium. She emphasized the importance of raising money to mitigate the impact of climate change and was declared Ms Ilo for college after a 15-year drought. An outspoken runner-up was College of Business and Accountancy's Edythe Joyce College of Tourism, Hotel and Restaurant Management's Miles Jhon Arroyo as second runner-up, and College of Engineering's Myrna Jane Alfaro third runner-up. Former emcee Joey Lisa, chair of the board of judges and one of Nicha's Three Tenors, serenaded the 11 candidates in the pageant.

### GCIC to offer Medical Technology program

IN THE US and Canada where there is a shortage of medical technologists, the Global Christian College (GCIC) has been offering Medical Technology courses with a couple of different directions. In addition, the similarity in health system makes medical technologists trained in the Philippines comfortable in US laboratories. As a response to the growing demand for medical technologists, Global Christian College plans to initiate a Medical Technology program for Bonifacio Global City starting/beginning commencement. Global Medical Technology plans to feature competencies in scientific research, medical laboratory science, clinical laboratory science, immunology, laboratory diagnosis, methodology and life-saving procedures, emphasis in pathology and values-based decision-making competencies and attention-number of the healthcare delivery system, special industry partnership with its Provision.

### Letran sends mission team to Camiguin Norte

LAST MAY 2 to 8, College de San Juan de Letran sent 13 volunteer employees and some guest doctors as part of the Camiguin Norte mission team. The mission team was headed by Letran's Center for Community Development Director Fernando Cervantes. Of the 13 volunteers, 10 were employees of Camiguin proper sold waste management, first aid, livelihood, nutrition and dentistry. The team also conducted a medical mission in the island which population is approximately 4,000. Another program of the Camiguin Norte rescue that the Letran community is supporting is the educational assistance for students of Lanzon of Camiguin. Dubbed as the "Send-A-Child-To-School", it aims to help poor but deserving students to finish their secondary education. The program has an amount of P1,500 to cover the expenses of a high school student's tuition fee for a school year. Book donations are also welcome. Interested groups or individuals, who would like to help send children to school may send their donation to BDO Makati-ayala Branch, savings account number 4480050041 Account Name: Fr. Jose Martin L. Sitoy, OP.

### UST, UNION BANK INK MOA SIGNING

Union Bank executive director for corporate philanthropy and social responsibility Maria Socorro Gochoco, AVP Rachel Ann Fr. Fr. Fernando de la Rosa, UB Union Bank chief executive officer Jesus Ortiz, and UST Miguel De Benavidez, Hilda Library Prefect of Libraries Rev. Fr. Angel Aparicio, OP during the MOA signing for Loreto Pavilion at UST.

### UPH MEDIA RELATION OFFICER HONORED

Charlotte Dorish Cuyo receives Dr. Imelda Wallen officer and photographer of University of Perpetual Help System Dalta receives the 15 years loyalty awards from Stella Orosa of Corporate Secretary Bruno Jelly Anthony Tamayo, president, UPHSD. Dr. Dalay M. Tamayo, Dalta Group of Companies, vice chair, and Engr. Richard Tamayo, UMD during the Presidential Awards Night held recently at Manila Grandstand Hall, UPHSD Compound, Las Piñas City.

### PNU TIE UP WITH KOREAN UNIVERSITY

The Philippine Normal University partner this with Chungju National University of Education in Korea brought 4 faculty and 20 young Koreans with 4 Filipino mothers in a study-visit program at PNU recently. PNU president Dr. Ester B. Ogena (center) received the Korean delegation headed by CNUE president Dr. Seung-Taik Yoo. Students stayed for one week at an international hotel. The Koreans visited classes at PNU Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) and Laguna Elementary School. Attended with Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim, received Filipino dances and folk songs and had a home stay with a Filipino family for one day. Other university officials shown are Prof. Annabelle Palmiery, CTL principal and Prof. Rina Romero, president's assistant on international affairs.

### Manila Water extends Lakbayan to students

LAST 22ND consecutive Manila Water has extended its Water That Flows program or Lakbayan to students and academicians. As a seventh schedule of environmental protection, Manila Water has intensified its water and wastewater advocacy to students in all levels. The Lakbayan program traces the journey of water from the source to treatment to distribution and treatment of used water or wastewater. Participants are treated to a visit at the La Mesa Dam, the Balara Treatment Plant and the University of the Philippines Sewage Treatment Plant where they are given briefings and orientation on the various stages. It is a fun but long day-water into potable water. Aimed at promoting the responsible and wiser usage of water, the Lakbayan program has been a major information, education and communication tool to promote environmental awareness not only among students but professionals alike. Currently, Manila Water is promoting the need for proper wastewater management as a key strategy in reducing pollution of the metropolis' major river systems.

### Journalism student leads CEU graduates

JESSE CRIS Soto, an AB Mass Communications Journalism student from Centro Escolar University Manikin campus, is this year's summa cum laude among the graduates of the three campuses of the university. Joining him as top graduates were Ralph B. Bocobina (BS Business Administration Financial Management), Nicole Cruz Manila and Edward Rosario (BS Mass Communication Broadcast) from CEU Manila who were both awarded magna cum laude. Mikaela Rose Trinidad from the three campuses were recognized with Latin honors and leadership awards on April 9 at the CEU Makati Conservatory for the CEU Manila's commencement exercises, and on April 12 and 13 at the Manila Hotel Tent Pavilion by the CEU Manila and Makati commencement exercises.

# Finland, Harvard, and fun math

LAST WEEK, we looked at Tiger Mothers, a term popularized by US professor and author Amy Chua to describe the ultra-demanding way she raised her kids who excelled academically and musically.

Do parents need to be tiger mothers and fathers to ensure that their kids do well? Not necessarily. Take Finland. Finnish parents are more laid back than their Asian counterparts, but their children score high in international examinations.

Their secret? Well, highly trained, good quality teachers.

Pasi Sahlberg, author of the book *Finnish Lessons: What Can the World Learn from Educational Change in Finland?*, says: "Finland's success is based on the fact that we have a good teacher in every classroom."

Sahlberg, who is director general of the Ministry of Education's Center for International Mobility and Cooperation in Finland, says that in Finland, teaching is a highly respected profession. Finnish teachers are required to have a master's degree. In the Philippines, only 18 education units are needed to be any teacher.

Levine quoted Jari Lavonen, teacher education head at the University of Helsinki, who said, "It's very expensive to educate all of our teachers in five-year programs, but it helps make our teachers highly respected and appreciated."

In the Philippines, lack of funds is always a problem. But quality teaching requires training. Mere training means better teaching, and better professional growth, and—consequently—more respect from students, parents and the society at large.

Because of the high quality of their teachers, Finnish parents do not feel the need to supplement their children's schooling with programs outside school. Dan Meyer, a teacher's trainer specialist from New York agrees.

Levine quoted Marlene: "[Finnish] teachers are much better prepared to teach algebra than [American teachers] are, because the Finnish generally get out of the way. You don't buy a dog and bark for it."

The solution to tiger parents? Tiger teachers.

I thank Ingrid Ong, education undergraduate, for alerting me to Levine's article.

### Harvard entrance exam

Harvard University is one of the best, if not the premier, university in the world, despite frequent grade inflation in many courses. A joke circulating in the Ivy League is, "It is hard to get in Harvard, but easy to get an A-cum-yocum in."

Perhaps Harvard students today are extremely smart—certainly smarter than those of a century ago.

Or are they? Here is an actual Harvard exam in 1869, uploaded by Alison Leigh Cowan in the blogs section of the New York Times. In her article, "Harvard Yesterday, Remembering When College Was a Boy's Reason," Cowan says that a century ago, Harvard was so eager to get applicants that it seemed every one that the entrance exam was given to.

Here are sample questions from 1869:

- Translate into Latin: "In the first of the spring the consul came to Ephesus, and having received the troops from Scipio, he led his army into Macedonia, he built a road in the plains of the soldiers, in which, after subduing their bravery, he ordered them to undertake a new war with the Greek who had lately rebelled against Antiochus with misfortune."
- Greek grammar (all Greek words must be written with their accents): Give an example of elision. In what words does the accent of the elided vowel disappear with the vowel?
- Discuss and geography: Where is the mouth of the Danube? Of the Indus? Of the Ganges? Of the Amazon?
- Algebra: A man bought a watch, a chain, and a locket for $116. The watch and locket together cost $60 more than the watch, and the chain and locket together cost half as much as the watch. What was the price of each?
- Plane geometry: Show how the area of a polygon circumscribed about a circle may be found: then how the area of a circle may be found; then prove that circles are to each other as the squares of their radii.

About 97 percent, 188 out of 214 applicants, passed the 1869 exam. What do you think the passing rate would be today?

But the rest of the questions, go to thecrimson.blogs.nytimes.com.

### Fun math for teachers

Abstract mathematics concepts are best learned through concrete activities. Theoretical principles can come alive through games, puzzles, art, particularly for preschool and elementary students.

Last month, Scholastic Book Fairs Philippines asked me to do a hands-on math workshop for teachers in Bulacan. We ate on the morning, we had fun doing number games, drama, stories, songs, and we ended the day with arithmetic and problem solving challenging fun fun.

Due to popular demand, I agreed to do a more intensive "Fun Math" workshop open to Manila. On May 25, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., the session will focus on math activities for preschool up to Grade 3. The total day the seminar will center on hands-on activities for intermediate grades (Grades 4-6) and up to the first year of high school. The workshop will be held at Polytechnic Hall of Greenhills Christian Fellowship Orchard Bottom's Gallerie in Pasig City.

Slots are limited. Those interested can contact Scholastic Book Fairs at tel. 8631 5181 or e-mail me at schoolbookfairs@globelaster.com.ph.

*E-mail the author at lines@philstar.com.*

# Contest deadline extended to July 15

THE DEADLINE for the submission of entries to the Energy Essay Writing Contest has been extended to July 15.

Awarding rites will be held second week of September.

Contestants who already submitted essays may still send additional entries.

The competition's main theme is "Energy Access for Many: How Can the Youth be Involved in Solving the Country's Energy Challenge?"

Special categories are: "Clean Energy Solutions," "Best Energy Market Industries," "Enhancing Electricity Market Competitiveness" and "Green Workplace."

Grand prize is P50,000 cash and a trophy. Four major categories will each get P30,000 cash and a trophy from corporate and institutional partners: Energy Regulatory Commission, Manila Power Corp., San Miguel Corp., and Calilayan International.

The inter-university competition aims to showcase the young Filipinos' role in attaining energy independence while maintaining a sound economy.

It tries to get the Filipino youth to think of clean, efficient and sustainable sources of energy and find out what they consider the most eco-friendly power generation systems and policies on energy conservation and measures that support development.

The contest is open to 16- to 28-year-old undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The special categories are open to Filipino students studying abroad.

Entries must be 1,000 to 1,500 words. They may be sent by post or online. E-mail energyproblemdevt@yahoo.com or text 0927-9902558 for inquiries. Details of the competition and application forms are available at www.energyproblemdevt.com.

# Know your tax rights

THE CENTER for Global Best Practices (www.cgbp.org) is holding its annual seminar on "Tax Rights and Remedies for (MBs) and Large Taxpayers."

The one-and-a-half-day event will be held on June 2-3 at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong City.

The program is an accredited Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) course by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines. Accredited by the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants, accountants get Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits.

Early bird and group discounts are available.

Learn how to handle Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) tax audits and understand issues—administrative, procedural, judicial and substantive remedies—a taxpayer can take, especially in light of the Supreme Court's Fort Bonifacio and Ron ather Tax Evasion (BATE) campaigns.

The seminar will focus on taxpayers' rights and how to address pressing tax problems, including what to do when the BIR auditors sell properties, how to argue fairly tax disputes based on opinions and issues issued by the Supreme Court and Court of Tax Appeal rulings, how to craft a protest letter properly, and other special issues and unique solutions.

Visit www.cgbp.org or call 0288 or 0922 848 2148/59/ 9288598, 9851 Manila, or (032) 5133186/87 (Cebu).

The one-of-a-kind seminar will feature the author of the book "Tax Rights and Remedies," lawyer and certified public accountant Nicholas C. Mamaradlo, who has had over 40 years of professional tax practice. He will share his knowledge as a former BIR assistant commissioner and his experiences working in the BIR for over 30 years. The author of many tax books, he is also in private practice, he will focus on helping businesses solve their tax problems.

# The other Arcellana

From page B1

**Reading it, her mother angrily declared, "This is not a critique. This is a public marriage proposal." Arcellana says 27 years her counselled education, like the touch education.**

**One thing she is proud of is that she never chose her professors to maximize her high grades.**

**"Mindanao Long nurtured my professors, practically do it was not The practice them to choose your professors. If you end up with a teacher you have to deal with it," she says.**

**Besides, she really did not have the luxury of shopping for honest instructors. "My schedule [would] not allow me to choose. I had to take all my subjects in the morning [because of family obligations]," she says.**

**She may have made taking up those high grades seem easy (she says, some semesters, they would get down a straight series) but beat the flat subject to the bat to show she got a flat one in all subjects, instead of getting a grade beside each course, to some time) but comma cum laude graduates used to be a rarity at the UP.**

**Arcellana was the only one in her class. 1998. Some years not a single graduate married the honors.**

**With Penn already working, Arcellana says she was her "first" scholar, so to speak, because he allowed me to go back to school, supported my needs, and even typed and edited my term papers. I owe him a good part of my success." Not that she had to pay anything being a university scholar of distinction.**

**After graduation, the UP immediately hired her—on touch geography. She recalls a university official stating, "Girls, we like you touch anything."**

**Through geography seemed a far cry from political science, she was able to relate it to her field, discussing geography in terms of politics, economics, etc.**

**She could have taken a more lucrative job but Arcellana is proud to have mentored future diplomats, legislators, Supreme Court justices.**

### Happy choice

**She herself was rather inclined towards diplomacy but "my options were limited by my status as a wife and mother. My first duty is to them. [Teaching is] where I can be of greatest service without compromising my children's and husband's welfare and happiness."**

**Arcellana says, "I thought this the happiest choice for a fulfilling career and a happy life among loved ones."**

**She would receive fellowships and scholarships to pursue post-graduate studies overseas. She started her Master of Arts in Political Science at the University of Michigan and Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science at the State University of Iowa, but finished both in the UP primarily because, since she was in the Philippine politics, the materials she needed were all here.**

**Throughout her career as a professor she appointed to have acquired a reputation as a strict mentor, but never a terror. She says she did not hesitate to give a grade of one if someone was really deserving.**

**The author and editor of several books, including "The Social and Political Thought of Claro M. Recto," "Oral language bedtime reading for parents and other government officials," she was a member of the UP Board of Regents, dean of the UP Graduate School and president of the UP Faculty Organization, among other.**

**Besides a member of the first UP professors' delegation to China and a member of the 1995 Philippine delegation to Tripoli, Libya, where she met a young leader named Muammar Gadhafi. She would return to Libya in 1988 as head of the Philippine delegation of professors.**

**Despite her headline-grabbing achievements, Arcellana said her kids rarely asked for help with school work. The children, instead, read voraciously, making the most of the family's extensive book collection.**

**She says children all went to UP two graduating magna cum laude and two finishing cum laude. "We did not know they were graduating with honors," she says.**

**Her work was hardly mentioned in the family although other members of the Class of 1958 were calling her "Sienna" instead of her real name, probably because they knew Gregorio is what it is, she laughingly adds.**

**Arcellana, who gives occasional lectures at UP, is currently working on a book on indigenous peoples of the Philippines.**

**TO FRAME.** Gina's achievements are "to affectionate, and words can't improve, remarkable, memorable ..."

**STOP AT MFI!** Eight tuition graduates who passed the entrance test for the two-year Industrial Technician Program (ITP) are participating in a Summer Training Orientation Program (Step) at the bench-working area of MFI Technological Institute, formerly Manila's Foundation Institute. Supervised by instructor Ray Fernandez, the group is among more than 150 students (out of 1,200 applicants for scholarship) who passed the entrance examinations.

# A musical history . . .

From page B1

Philippines on 1911 by the Brothers of the Christian Schools, members of the Roman Catholic teaching congregation founded by Saint John Baptist de la Salle in France in 1680. It now has more than 350,000 alumni from different campuses.

La Salle alumni will hold reunion rites for the rule of the La Salle Brothers' founder on June 15 at the chapel of the Most Blessed Sacrament in DLSU Manila.

Being a top university serving the most privileged sector of the population, La Salle aims to raise its capacity of providing scholarships to up to 20 percent of its total student population, system-wide.

# 2nd annual National Bible Quiz for high school

TAKE PART in the 2011 St. Paul National Bible Quiz and get a chance to win exciting prizes.

If you are a high school student or an out-of-school youth, aged 16 years old and below, organize a group with three of your friends and participate in the elimination rounds in June. Elimination will be held at the following dates:

**Southern Luzon:** Lagonoy, Batangas and Lucena: June 25, St. Paul Seminary, Lemon Tree Grove, Gratsy, Colegio de San Juan de Letran in Calamba, Laguna, and St. La Salle Lipa in Batangas

**Northern and Central Luzon:** July 2, St. Paul Seminary, Malolos, San Fernando, Pampanga; St. Paul College-Bocaue in Bulacan; and Dominican College, Cupao, Bulacan

**Southern Metro Manila:** July 23 at Claret School in Quezon City

**Northern Metro Manila:** July 30 at Society of St. Paul, Makati City

Central Visayas and Cagayan de Oro region: July 31, Holy Name College, Tagbilaran, Bohol; July 31, Ecumenical College of Cagayan de Oro City; and July 17, University of San Carlos, Cebu City

Western Visayas and Mindanao: July 30, the Museum Power Seminary, Iloilo City; July 31, University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos, Bacolod City; and July 23, John Paul II College, Davao City

Winners in the elimination rounds will move on to the regional semifinals to be held July 9 to August. The grand finals will be held during the Manila International Book Fair on September 8 to 18 at SMX Convention Center, SM Mall of Asia complex, Pasay City.

To join, get an application form from any branch of St. Paul's bookstores and from SSP communities. You may also download it from stpauls.ph/biblequiz. No registration fee is required. Call Bro. Albert Garving, SSP at 9955715 or 8919761 loc 107.

**PARTICIPANTS** at last year's National Bible Quiz Show

**NEW TRAINING STRATEGY.** The Foundation for Upgrading the Standard of Education (FUSE) launched a new teacher training program in Palompon, Leyte. Physics, chemistry, English, mathematics and elementary school science teachers attended.

Rep. Lucy Torres-Gomez, Palompon Mayor Ramon C. Oñate and Vice Mayor Ma. Georgina L. Arevalo, Department of Education and Interior and Local Government, and its Leyte Division supported the project. From left: PCHRD's Helen T. Sy, Arevalo, Torres-Gomez, Oñate and wife Lourdes, and FUSE president, Surrogate Rep. Salvador H. Escudero III.

# The true value of war

By Francis Thaddeus S. Lazaro
Ateneo de Manila High School

(Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from the narrative that won fourth prize in the 2011 WWII True Stories contest. Lazaro got an A+ for effort, and a little voucher from PSBA.)

A BOY lay still on the field in deep sleep. It was Christmas. There were slowly approaching and the boy awoke. The men, posing as guerrillas, were awaiting his family's remaining crops. They ignored the boy's pleas.

As the days left with their lust, chaos were fired and the men left.

The boy was no longer a child. He was now a man. He shot three rubber tributes.

My lolo, Feliciano Lazaro, is an 87-year-old veteran of World War II. At a young age, he was exposed to the war. He killed the bandits who burned his town at only 16 years old.

Since then, he had been a sharpshooting police colonel, a night-shooting lawyer and businessman, the recipient of many honors. He continues to serve his country and comrades by campaigning for police reforms' rights.

Back in the heyday of Manila's Finest, as the city's police has so many fine history, he was feared as the name "Feliciano" in the telephone prior to my grandfather, a living legend.

To many Filipinos, especially the youth, World War II is something read in textbooks, documentary films, or enjoyed as video games.

I myself thought war was just fighting, death and guns. I did not realize war was the victors. My grandfather's war stories touched on aviation, humanity and even morality.

As I think about my lolo's life during World War II, I see how much my generation was raised by those who came before, and how much my lolo and his comrades did for me.

### With passion

I heard two grandfather's stories as a child. Stunning all of them by heart. I always found his narrations... with passion, garnished generously with expletives... entertaining. But it is only now that I find a connection in his story because its experiences and what he was my age.

At 16, my grandfather had already killed three people, worked for his family and suffered less hand the hardships of war. As he tells his stories, I realize that, being what I am, I would not have survived the war.

One of my lolo's stories is his brother Amado's encounter with the Makapili (Filipino word pigeons or informers). Amado was discovered to be a guerilla by the pro-Japanese Makapili.

He was arrested and tied upside down to a tamarind tree. His family was told he would be released if they paid 200,000 in gold and money. Although the amount was large then, the family paid.

But, by the end of the next day, the family realized that, though they complied with the demand, Amado would not return.

One morning, my grandfather was surprised to see a stranger on their porch. The stranger only knew was foraging and had a bloody face.

"If you move, I will kill you," my grandfather told the man, aiming his gun at him. The stranger surrendered his corn gun and his belongings. Inside his bag were Amado's random certificates. The stranger confessed that Amado was executed and the ransom demand was a hoax.

The stranger was Amado's murderer. My grandfather his face with a shovel and buried him in a newly dug grave.

After my grandfather joined the American-Filipino defenders, he was assigned to transport fourteen ammunition from Mindoro to Luzon. Then, he was later assigned to the trenches with a friend who was American soldier's duo in a grenade blast.

It was during this assignment that my grandfather fought one of his toughest battles. Nine soldiers were assigned to a trench to spot-check a Hamban cannon. He was tasked to pull the rope to fire the artillery. He saw of his shells at night, he saw Japanese soldiers preparing to attack their camp.

My lolo would not rouse his comrades. One American officer ordered him. "Keep on firing. Don't wake me up!" Alone and armed only with grenade rifles, my grandfather knew the fate of everyone in the camp was in his hands.

The next day soldiers were surprised to find the bodies of 32 Japanese soldiers, shot by one lionhearted Filipino guard on duty. An officer asked, "Who fired?" Everyone pointed at the brave hero, Lt. Col. Joseph Swing, commander of the 11th Airborne Division, came that day and gave my grandfather a commendation letter and thanked him for his courage and determination and for saving the artillery.

### Shades of gray

As my lolo shared his life during WWII, the first words of Charles Dickens' novel, "A Tale of Two Cities," came to mind: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times . . ."

One night, the Japanese intercepted communication and threw my lolo's whole campmate confusion. Commander shot at comrades. The next morning several Americans lay dead, killed by friendly fire. My lolo was teary-eyed as he recalled his buddies' bodies of his friends into trucks and how countless dead Americans were loaded.

More tragic times followed.

As a child, I asked my grandfather if he would do the things he did if there was another war. My lolo said he would not have traded his experiences for any thing... even the life we have now.

The values of family, hard work and discipline, he said, could only be genuinely appreciated and absorbed in the context of war.

My lolo once told me that you are only truly lucky to have freedom if you risked that freedom. The brothers of our lolos sacrificed and the other Filipinos in World War II share how much we are loved. Honors the hero. Tell them you love them and listen to their stories.

Through these little things we can truly show hearts and prove we are worth fighting for.

VOLUNTEERS (top) repair the roof of the classrooms Elementary School in Tagaro, Clip. Besides a classroom (left), other volunteers repair chairs.

## Brigada Eskwela harnesses community can-do spirit

BRIGADA ESKWELA will once again rely on the Filipino tradition of bayanihan to prepare schools for classes in June.

The annual campaign, spearheaded by the Department of Education (DepEd) and also known as the National School Maintenance Week, is conducted in May.

During this week, volunteers prepare schools for the start of classes by conducting maintenance work like repainting roofs and walls, and repairing leaking water pipes, ceiling boards, broken furniture and windows.

Corporations and nongovernment organizations support the initiative through donations in kind. Cash donations are not accepted.

Donors give cleaning/repair materials and other supplies and materials needed to repair and/or rehabilitate classrooms and buildings.

This year, DepEd expects more schools and volunteers to participate.

The activity is done a week before the opening of classes so that children can start the school year immediately. In the past, teachers and students spend the first few days of a new school year doing the cleaning and repairing themselves.

DepEd encourages principals and school heads to organize activities in their respective schools, working with parent volunteers. Deadlines are scheduled to be submitted on March and work groups organized in April.

Aside from giving students better classrooms and campuses, Brigada Eskwela also showcases the strength of the Filipino spirit and the generosity of the community and other sectors.

DepEd aims to make Brigada Eskwela a year-round campaign. It also hopes to get the private sector to help in other areas like student health, nutrition and hygiene, among others.

The Brigada Eskwela won an Isreil Award of Merit this year from the Public Relations Society of the Philippines. DepEd is the only government agency to win an Isreil award this year.

CEBUANOS sons Adji Tiongson and Ian Tiongson are welcomed to Olongapo by Prodi's program director Rita Hermosa. Area children and Prodi's rescued children are this year's recipients of school supplies and other gifts.

## Buffet chain gives out school supplies

CEBUANON brought its Cebuhan pace on Kalutasan (gift-giving) activity this year to Olongapo City partnering with Shicheng Kapatiran (Rajacinto Foundation), an organization of Filipino and Dutch volunteers based in the Netherlands.

Cebuhan shared its blessings in Olongapo with two of Rajacinto's beneficiaries the Area children of Barrios, Zambales, and People's Recovery, Empowerment and Development Institution Foundations Inc. (Prodi), a center for abused children in Olongapo City.

Headed by executives Adji Tiongson and vice president Ian Tiongson, Cebuhan distributed grocery bags full of goodies and school bags with various school supplies in it. Cebuhan, known for excellent home-cooked Filipino food, also served the children lunch.

Rajacinto's small-scale income-generating projects for poor communities in the Philippines have led to educational projects that are synchronized with the United Nations' eight millennium development goals for 2015, including universal access to primary education.

It mentioned Rajacinto is one the Basic Literacy Program in 2000 providing financial assistance to children of poor families to acquire basic education. Almost P1.2 million has so far been given to 521 elementary pupils in the provinces of Agusan del Sur, Cagayan, Davao del Sur, Ilocos Norte, Negros Occidental, Oriental Mindoro and Zambales.

The "Eat All You Can, Eat All You Wish" restaurant's annual gift-giving project started in 1998. Besides Manila, Wawona started the outreach programs in a menu of Guadalupe and giving back to the communities.

During the whole month of December every guest will name the funds for the annual activity by setting aside a percentage of every customer of income generated for less privileged children.

This year's activity was coordinated with the help and support of Phnb Thongsan Wijsberg, cultivator of Rajacinto Foundation and a recipient of the Royal Order of Knight in the order of Orange-Nassau for more than 20 years of service to the Dutch and Filipino communities.

Since launching Cebuhan pace in Kalutasan in 1996, Cebuhan and its loyal customers have helped more than 3,000 children in Olongapo City.

Call 3722015 or 09393893. Visit www.cebuhan.ph

## Book finder

### Reading the last days of summer away

WHILE shopping for school supplies, throw in a few books that the kids can enjoy as they sweat (yeah, right) the opening of a new school year.

**Little Ghost**
**By Ezra Carla**
**Age group: 2-6**

Every child knows to see fearful shapes in the clouds. But what are clouds really for? Here's little dead slips away from its parent clouds and turns itself into a series of beautiful forms—a sheep, an airplane, a hat, a clown—before rejoining the other clouds as they perform their real function: making rain.

**Pan de Sal Saves the Day**
**By Hanna Chikiamko**
**Age group: 3-8**

Pan de Sal is a shy, plain, little girl embarrassed by living in a thatched-roof hut and for eating simple food. She knows Croissant, Muffin and Doughnut, her richer and prettier classmates. One day, the school bus they are riding in has a flat tire, and Pan de Sal saves the day by entertaining her friends and sharing her simple lunch with them—and it turns out that she has no reason to feel ashamed.

**The Kane Chronicles: The Throne of Fire**
**By Rick Riordan**
**Age group: 9-11**

Carter Kane and his sister Sadie have been in it quite since the gods of Ancient Egypt were unleashed in the modern world. Although the siblings have some powers, being descendants of the House of Life they have not had much time to master their skills at Brooklyn House, which has become a training ground for young magicians. And now they have to stop Set's most powerful threatening enemy yet—the chaos snake Apophis—breaking free. Or the world will come to an end. Narrated in two different entertaining voices, featuring a large cast of new and unforgettable characters, and with adventures spanning the globe, the second installment in the Kane Chronicles is an thrilling as it can get.

All books are available at Mirriland Storybook Stores and Power Books.

**PUBLISHING COMPANY CELEBRATES DIAMOND JUBILEE**

Abiva Publishing House Inc. (APHI) continues to grow its multi-media publishing business as it marks its 75th year in Diamond Jubilee. Present at the centennial blowing of candles are (from rear) Luis Q. Abiva, Jr., board chair, and Nora Abiva Garcia, executive vice president and treasurer; (second row) Richard Abiva Casal, director; Jaqui Abiva Garcia, president; Ms. Brenda Abiva Cruz, director; Ms. Beatriz Abiva Isaac, family council member; and Ray Ann Abiva Casal, family council member. APHI is also the exclusive distributor of the Science Research Associates (SRA) that provides individualized and multilevel instruction and development of reading.

# PROJECT & Business BIG Investment Guide

# Learning the basics of entrepreneurship

By Joel V. Nigos

THERE'S ALWAYS the bright side when one talks about entrepreneurship or starting and running his own business. For many, the biggest attraction would surely be being his own boss, of calling the shots, as of being able to run his own show. For others, entrepreneurship fulfills their creative drives as well as gives other forms of fulfillment. Of course, who would not be thrilled by the idea of easily getting rich by running his own small enterprise. With the time and the right effort that he'll provide to his own business, the opportunity to earn unlimited revenue is truly no exception.

The other bright side is even when you do interviews with people on the street, you'll learn that a large majority are inclined to have their own business if given the chance. But there's also the not so bright side—that though a large majority of people want to have their own business, most lack the necessary skills to be able to realize. This is where learning a thing or two about entrepreneurship would be a big help.

Besides, there's an obvious practicality for a new business owner to equip himself even with the basic knowledge on entrepreneurship. Of course, there's that cliché that "knowledge is wealth," yet it always helps to learn for your business sake but more importantly the new entrepreneur should keep in mind that he can save money by not committing the same mistakes over and over again. He must aim to minimize (but blunders in starting and managing his own business can cost him money, time and effort.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP, A3

# Flower business is in full bloom

PLACE an order online and pay with your credit card

JUSTIN Andaya, founder and CEO of Island Rose

By Marivi D. Salazar

ALMOST ANYTHING can be sold online.

Businesses need to have a website or an online delivery service if they want to reach more customers. And why not, a large percentage of the population is always online. They communicate and do their errands here on the web.

That opened the opportunity for the Philippine Tie Flower Corporation to launch a flower and gift delivery service in 2000 it called Island Rose (www.islandrose.net). The farming, however, was actually begun in 1983. Today Island Rose is an award-winning business recognized for its use of information technology for small and medium enterprises.

Francis Andaya, founder and CEO of Island Rose said that the flower business is difficult and unique in many ways.

"The technology behind growing flowers in greenhouses and selling it online is something that is very challenging," he said.

The first challenge is delivering only the freshest flowers straight from the farm in Tagaytay. Andaya said, they adopted a modern greenhouse farming technique to be able to grow high quality flowers that customers will love. The flowers are grown indoors to ensure that all products have long vase life.

The second challenge is making their presence felt not only in the web but also in other traditional medium because there is still a large bulk of prospective customers in that segment.

Since then, the company has been strengthened not only because of its products but also of its belief that technology can play a big part in growing the business. In 2003, the International Trade Center (ITC), an agency under the World Trade Organization (WTO) selected Island Rose to represent the Philippines as a "Best Practice Model" for use of Information Technology in the small and medium enterprises category. In 2008, it received the Philippine Marketing Association Agora Award for Outstanding Achievement in Entrepreneurship. It is also a 2009 finalist for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

It also earned recognition from The Secretariat for Cooperatives, The Cooperative Development Authority, The Development Authority for International Trade Expositions and Missions, and Technology and Livelihood Resource Center (TLRC) Technopreneurship Award.

Today, Island Rose grows and delivers different colors of rose: pink, peach, red, white, yellow, and orange. And the petal cuts are called with names that sound a little feminine like Christine, Gloria, Serena, among others.

Delivery is ensured for the next day in different parts of the country where there is a presence of Island Rose. It offers next day delivery as long as it received the order and credit card payment at least one day before, or before 4 p.m. From 11 a.m. the company delivers the flowers ordered the previous day.

Obviously, the flower business has its peak season and the busiest of which are on Valentine's Day and Mothers' Day as well as Christmas Day. It also means that it is advisable to place orders much earlier to avoid delay.

Andaya, who has a Master Degree in Business Administration from the University of Hull in the United Kingdom and an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year finalist in 2009, said it is very encouraging for us to know that our product contributes to touching peoples lives. Our goal and motto is "Keeping Relationships Alive", high quality products and services is what keeps us in the business and is what encourages us to work hard. It is a very fulfilling feeling that everyday we are able to deliver a service that contributes to the psychological welfare of many Filipinos.

As the day and age when everything is wired, expanding the business and providing an online presence is a must. There is no denying that online selling is becoming the norm and soon e-commerce will be in full bloom where cynics would be proven wrong.


CUT THIS AD AND ATTACH BUSINESS CARD TO AVAIL 10% OFF ON ALL SERVICES AT ANY MR. QUICK!® SHOP. VALID MAY 23 TO 31, 2011

# Learning the basics of entrepreneurship

VICE President Jejomar Binay addresses prospective entrepreneurs who became guest of honor at the Isla Puregold Barkard Convention held at World Trade Center in Pasay City last weekend.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

In the course of the new business owner learning to be an entrepreneur, he'll learn things that he'd been doing that are not good practices; then he should stop doing them. He'll also come across practices that are new to him and he believes will be good to his business then he starts doing them. And it may be he'll come across things that he's been doing to his business and he'll know that indeed they are good to his small enterprise that will surely be an affirmation that he's been doing great as an entrepreneur.

According to the study made by the University of the Philippines Institute for Small-Scale Industries a few years ago, approximately one-of-five new businesses are doomed for fail. It's a measly 20 percent of new entrepreneurs you would say but considering the time, effort, and money investment by them, that's still a big loss.

Below are some of the risks and rewards new small business owners have to jump into the entrepreneurship-based wagon.

## Risks

- **The risk of failure.** Small enterprises are generally prone to risks as the study results in the DTI-UPISSI showed. Compared to bigger and established companies, they also find it more difficult to obtain capital from financing institutions. In addition, as has they from a group when they engage in buying and selling their products or services, foreign exchange rate usually as influence to decrease the market price and supply. Big businesses can even leverage small enterprises in pricing and supply so they can improve their bargaining strength.

- **Unpredictable business environment.** Sudden changes in the business environment can cause a small enterprise to fold up. This is much evident during the 1997 Asian financial crisis and the 2008 global financial meltdown where a big percentage of small-business-closed up because financial institutions have tightened up on their credit and businesses-in-lows slowed down. Small firms generally don't have the financial capability to organize-and-leverage-to-survive-downturns-in-income. When business is slow, they may encounter cash flow problems since their limited capital requires them to have a quick turnover to keep the company liquid.

- **Short-lived mind.** Most accomplished entrepreneurs would advise that short-lived mind has been the major key to their success. Often, we learn about an enterprise when they are big and very successful already and sometimes clueless on the fact that they've been there for some time, that they have encountered problems along the way, and that the owners have invested so much time and effort on it. This is what big entrepreneurs talk about when they are invited to speak and share their experiences before the public during seminars, trainings or conventions or on small and medium-sized firms. They want to emphasize that engaging in business is no walk in the park and unlike betting in the lotto where you can win the jackpot overnight. There will also be both gains and losses with half of them may be initially be researched with modest earnings or even income losses. A prospective entrepreneur must be ready to all of these.

- **Unwanted responsibilities.** As the business grows, the entrepreneur may find himself saddled with unwanted responsibilities which he may not have thought of since he may have engaged himself in the business only because he just wants to start a living on his own terms. Most often, he will not admit his inadequacies but eventually he has to give way to a qualified manager so as not to risk the successes made by the enterprise and its potentials. Entrepreneurship-into-means-to-an-end-possibly-though-the-same-may-not-be-on-the-same-level-as-the-CEOs-of-big-companies. Looking after the welfare of the people you employ and the community you serve, paying the wages and benefits as provided by law, providing value for your customers in terms of products and services, and competing fairly mean that you're being socially responsible.

## Rewards

- **Be your own boss.** For many, this is the biggest attraction to becoming a business owner. When you're employed, you are at the beck and call of your employers. When you're an entrepreneur, you are your business so nobody tells you what to do. Being an entrepreneur, you also control your own future and you have the upper hand to dictate when you want to be.

- **Opportunity to earn unlimited income.** When you're an employee, you are only paid the salary specified in your employment papers, no more no less. Of course, there are bonuses or additional benefits but often their only medium to value is provided by law or what the company wants to give. Where you're an entrepreneur, the potential to earn unlimited income is endless. Your earnings will be commensurate with the time and effort you put into the enterprise which means that you can make the amount of money you want.

- **Chance to express creativity.** An entrepreneur can easily turn ideas into reality into products or services that benefit those who they intend for and in the market. An employee only shares ideas or follows orders in the organization. When his idea makes it in the market, he would never get credit for it, only the company he works for or maybe only his immediate supervisor, on the other hand, gets full credit when his idea turns out to be a good one.

- **Sense of fulfillment.** A flourishing enterprise is a crowning fulfillment of a lifetime. When you're business is successful, you'll surely receive recognition from family friends, peers, employees as well as the community.

The rewards are really great when you want to begin your own enterprise but the risks of failure also cannot be ignored. Taken all these into account, can you say now that you're ready to start your own business? E-mail the author at jmgo@inquirer.com.ph

# Citi Microentrepreneur of the Year showcased at 1st National Microfinance Stakeholders Summit

AN IMPRESSIVE display of the Citi Microentrepreneur of the Year (Miny) awards program and winners proved all participants to the first-ever National Microfinance Stakeholders Summit recently hosted by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. The summit brought together nearly 200 key players in the microfinance industry – policymakers, regulators, microfinance leaders, banks, donors, rating agencies and investors.

The two-day summit celebrated the milestones of microfinance in the country, among which is the Philippines' consistent high ranking in the international survey of countries with microfinance industries conducted by the Economist Intelligence Unit.

Microfinance is a key focus area in Citi's citizenship efforts, in the Philippines as well as in other markets around the world. Citi Country Officer for the Philippines Angie Tolosa talked of the kind of support Citi provides Miny awardees. "Our commitment to microfinance continues even after the trophies and prize money have been awarded. We are privileged to let the Citi Miny winners take center stage in the summit, as they are the ones that form the very core of the Philippines' microfinance industry," Tolosa said.

The Citi Miny Awards program is a nationwide search for outstanding Filipino microentrepreneurs. Funded by Citi Foundation, the program is implemented in the country by Citi Philippines together with GMF and the Microfinance Council of the Philippines Inc. It was launched in 2002 in celebration of Citi's centennial year in the country and has recognized more than 70 winners.

Five winners of the Citi Miny Awards were given the chance to put their products on display in Commerce Metropolis, 2007 Citi Miny Manilaque Sentinel Winner and manufacturer of hand-woven products like ladies' bags, happily reported that it is because of opportunities like this that she was invited by The Filipino Channel (TFC) to shoot a commercial talking about her products. TFC is a Filipino cable TV network available in viewers abroad.

Placing her 2008 Luzon Mindful Awardee trophy alongside her decorative ornaments, Nellie Estrondo said she has become accustomed to participating in similar exhibits, and credits the Business Advisory Services provided by Citi for her greater confidence. Nellie's very colorful display of cabinet trophies and tiny angels was an instant hit among guests and sold out quickly.

Other Citi Miny winners who expressed their gratitude to Citi were Ester Landas, 2008 Mindanao National Winner, manufacturer of hand-woven bags; Jennilyn Sarmiento, 2008 Mindanao National Winner, peanut butter manufacturer; and Lolly Cabigat, 2009 Luzon Mindanao Awardee, wooden toilet components.

# 7-Eleven joins SME expo for OFW families

CEREMONIAL SHOVELING/BREAKING OF MAMPOSA BUDGET HOTEL ANOMAS

THE PHILIPPINO Overseas Filipino Workers Small and Medium Entrepreneurs Network Foundation Inc. (Philippino Overseas Filipino Workers) announced recently that Philippine Seven Corporation (PSC) is joining the Handog Sa Pilipino Negosyo Expo, Small and Medium Entrepreneurs Expo which is slated on June 24-25 at the Philippine Trade Training Center in Pasay City.

Pamilyang OFWs president George Arthur Arevalo said that the PSC is a Philippine-based company engaged in the operation of 7-Eleven stores. The company and its subsidiaries are primarily engaged in the business of retailing, merchandising, buying, selling, marketing, importing, exporting, franchising, acquiring, building, distributing, warehousing, trading, exchanging all kinds of grocery items, dry goods, food or foodstuffs, beverages, drinks and all kinds of consumer needs.

Pamilyang OFWs marketing director Christina Angus said that other companies which are signed up for participation are: Century Iron Fine Products Corp. (metal sheet roofing), Automobile Corp. (Ford, Isuzu), Innovative Manpower Services Inc. (overseas jobs), and Sunwell Equities Inc. (real estate projects in Bataan), and Jacob Equities Inc. (real estate projects in Cavite).

Arevalo said that the batch to back request of the Pamilyang OFWs (with website address http://www.pamilyangofw.com) and, as, 436-0610 is some steps about job, livelihood, investment and business opportunities which aims to empower the OFWs and IMMRAs as well as their families through information, opportunities and benefits. It aim aims to transform a majority of OFW families into community entrepreneurs.

In a study conducted by the Pamilyang OFWs, it was shown that majority of the OFW families have low income and even no money which they can utilize as investment in small business enterprises. What is important, in order for them to succeed, is by getting them vital and useful information which is the role being played since 1994 by Pamilyang OFWs in cooperation with the government, private and non-government organizations involved.

# Leading the way: The LEaD Camp 2011 at Waterfront Hotel in Cebu

FOR THE fourth consecutive year, SMDI presented the Leadership Enhancement and Development Camp (LEaD Camp). The LEaD Camp 2011 gathered 1,200 trained finance practitioners and women community leaders at the Waterfront Hotel, Lahug, Cebu City last May 17 to 20. With the theme "Level Up, Next Generation!" SMDI emphasized the critical need for leaders to level up in their commitment and skills to further engage the second generation of clientele towards sustained economic transformation.

Serving more than 207,000 underbanked women micro-entrepreneurs and farmers in its 71 branches, SMDI continues to work for holistic transformation by providing microfinance services (group and agri-microfinance loans, microinsurance and capital build up), enterprise capacity building (training, consultancy and business grants), and values transformation. Events like the LEaD Camp 2011 aim to equip leaders on their role as change agents.

The event's LEaD-ing and outstanding leaders' motivator, Philippe Roma, Dr. Violeta Buenaventura, Dr. Abraham Kim, Dr. Amaryllis Torres, Br. Jonathan Palomar, Br. Philip Servaja, Mr. Eduardo Jimenez, Dr. Gloria Jimenez, Walter Villabrille Jr. among others, speaking on topics covering spiritual commitment and growth, economic development, social commitment, personal and family well being, work skills enhancement and market trends. It also staged a night of music an holistic transformation which featured the SMDI Band and acclaimed song writer and singer Gary Granada.

The LEaD Camp 2011 was supported by the Country Bankers Insurance Corp., Waterfront Hotel and Casino, BPI Foundation, Philam Life Insurance, Landbank of the Philippines, Coca-Cola, UCPB and Pacific Rim.

SMDI is an SEC-registered non-stock non-quasi-banking (NSNQB) microfinance institution with Certificate No. CN200015861 and listed as one of the largest MFI NGO in the country. On its 15th year of operations, SMDI further strengthened its financial inclusion of more economically disadvantaged sectors of the country.

# BPI on its 160th Year
## Makes Investing Easy For Clients

Everyone wants to have the best value for money especially when money comes from hard work. In his generation that constantly transcends tradition, an old fact remains: let your money work for you. One good strategy for this is to place your hard earned money to investment funds. Investing your money will give you the opportunity to build a solid and stable financial asset over time.

While it sounds simple and easy, time may not always be on your side to allow you to start up, expand and monitor your investments. This is what BPI, the country's leader in Asset Management, understands. There is a need for a platform that will transcend traditional investment practices to make it easy for both current and potential investors and clients to invest and start making money work for them.

With the onset of its 160th anniversary, BPI recently launched the country's full service online investment facility dubbed BPI Investments Online. With this innovation, clients can see opportunities, seize opportunities, wherever they are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Aside from viewing the latest market value of their investment accounts and the composition of their investments and drilling down to see the details of their investment fund portfolio, clients can now place orders anytime, anywhere allowing clients to take advantage of opportunities when they arise.

Wealth building is also made easy with the Regular Subscription Plan (RSP) of Investments Online. It is an investment program that allows client to maintain a regular subscription amount for purchase of units on a periodic basis, either on a monthly or quarterly basis. The RSP, together with the lower minimum initial investment and subsequent amounts, enables investors to consistently build up their investments without the need to visit a BPI branch.

"BPI continues its promise of transcending traditional banking practices to offer services and facilities that will make banking and investing easy for current and potential clients," says SVP Maria Theresa Marcial – Javier, Group head and Chief Investment Officer of BPI Asset Management. "Through the power of web, the world is indeed at your fingertips. Clients can now access their portfolios and even perform a number of investment tasks that would otherwise entail visiting their BPI branch. They can check their fund's portfolio and now, with the launch of Investments Online, subscribe or redeem their investment funds all through a secure site."

Incidentally, the new and refreshed BPI Asset Management webpage was also launched on the same day. Now with a fresh look, clients will find the site easier to navigate with the main sections divided depending on the type of investor so you they will be faced only with information relevant to them. For more information, clients may visit www.bpiassetmanagement.com.

Mr. Aurelio Montinola III, President and CEO of BPI adds, "At BPI turns 160 this year, we are really excited to usher in the future of investing and see how we can empower you to leverage on innovation and technology combined. I encourage clients to invest in BPI Asset Management where a minimum of just Php 10,000 to start with and see how your money will work for you. Through BPI Investments Online, let us be your trusted partner and asset manager so we help you become a savvy investor."

Truly, this is investments made easy and convenient for clients.

*BPI Asset Management introduces Investment 1.0 and ushers in the future of Investments. (Photo shows from L-R): Mr. Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, Chairman and CEO of Ayala Corporation; Ms. Maria Theresa Marcial – Javier, SVP and BPI Asset Management Group Head, Mr. Adelbert Legaste, Executive Vice President, Mr. Paul Joseph Garcia, Senior Vice President; and Mr. Aurelio Montinola III, President and CEO*

*Clients will find the BPI Asset Management website easy to navigate with 3 main sections – the Institutional Fund Management section for corporate investors; the Wealth Management section for individuals and an Investment Research section to help clients make informed decisions.*

*(From L-R): Ms. Eija Ocampo, BPI SVP and Chief Marketing Officer, Ms. Maria Theresa Marcial – Javier; Mr. Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, and Mr. Adelbert Legaste.*

*(From L-R) Ms. Maria Montinola, VP and Head of Wealth Management; Ms. Maria Theresa Marcial – Javier; and Mr. Aurelio Montinola III gave local media an exclusive preview into the future of investments in the country during a press briefing.*

*BPI clients are treated to a night of socials as they find out the latest innovation offered by the bank to make it easy to make their money work for them.*

*BPI senior officers join clients as the bank introduces its newest innovation that makes investing easy for more Filipinos through the new online investments facility.*

*Clients were able to explore the features of the brand new BPI Investments Online and find out how investing can be taken to new heights with the power of the internet*

*Investment Counselors were on hand to give clients a walkthrough of the various features of the new BPI Investments Online.*

# Power up your web presence with PLDT myDSL Biz 10 Mbps Internet

PLDT myDSL Biz launched new packages to help more small to medium businesses boost business opportunities on the Internet. Enjoy faster Internet of up to 10 Mbps of business-grade speeds for an enhanced user experience. It also offers free Security Software solutions for company protection and privacy. The offering is made even more attractive with its Value-Added Service, an Online Office Suite that allows you to have your own business web domain and email.

**Get your own domain name**

Higher speed of up to 10 mbps means your business can confidently host its own website, an essential tool in marketing in the cyber age. Your own website enables customers from around the globe to find you online, 24-7, marketing your company while you sleep. As an added benefit, PLDT will set up the domain name and registration for you, hassle-free. Through your own domain or website, you can make your company's name visible in all transactions and communications, establishing a more professional image.

"We are providing an enhanced user experience and efficiency through: increased 10 Mbps speed, but not just efficiency but more value for the small to medium business owner as well. Our customers can submit choices for their web domain and we will set it up for them," says PLDT VP and SME Nation Head Kat Luna-Abelarde.

**Solutions for small business**

If your company is growing and needs better Internet connection, but you still prefer a cost-friendly solution, PLDT myDSL Biz offers SME Bossings the benefits of high speed Internet in a package that won't drain your budget.

Enhanced user experience. A speed of 10 mbps will vastly improve the overall Internet usage, allowing you to enjoy all web-based data, features and applications better.

Faster. More efficient Internet. Upload or download huge files in half the time. If you use Internet a lot for research and downloading then you know that huge files take up several hours. With up to 10 mbps you can enjoy less online delays, a considerable energy saver as well!

Affordable packages with Value Added Services. You not only get increased speed and more efficiency but you can also enjoy those benefits minus the added costs to your business.

To know more about PLDT myDSL Biz, contact PLDT SME Nation at 701-888, visit www.pldtsme-nation.com.ph or check out the PLDT SME Nation Facebook page.

## Better online protection with PLDT myDSL Biz Security Software

With more Internet usage needed for business comes the inevitable digital risks as well. Companies today need more than a simple virus program to protect itself from the increasingly sophisticated forms of Internet threats. To boost value for business owners, PLDT myDSL Biz is bundling its new faster business-grade Internet with a complimentary Security Software Suite, programs that address business protection and security.

Identity theft, spamming, and online fraud are just some of the forms of cyber crime that face Internet users. Yet security solutions are still often overlooked by most conscious consumers due to its perceived expense.

The new PLDT myDSL Biz bundled with Security Software Suite is thus the smart investment you can make now for your business, providing crucial tools needed for your company's protection.

**Get to know PLDT myDSL Biz's Security Software Suite offerings:**

• Protect your computer from viruses with the complementary full-version Anti-virus software. Detect, quarantine and remove unwanted viruses and worms that may put your business data at risk.

• Manage Internet traffic coming in and out of your computer with the bundled Firewall program that defends you from potential Internet security breaches.

• Guard against harmful intrusions in your computer such as spyware and malware with the Anti-spyware program.

• Defend yourself from potential identity risks in the Internet with Fraud Protection. Surf the net with confidence without having to worry about being victim to identity theft and other fraudulent activities.

• Control and monitor Internet access and usage of your business with the Web Blocker; block off unwanted sites from being accessed by your business and more.

• Ensure your privacy is secure while using the Internet with the Privacy Manager. Monitor outgoing private information from your computer and remove private Internet usage trails automatically.

• Optimize and ensure the efficiency of your computing needs with the PC Tune-Up maintenance software to keep your computer in top top shape.

PLDT myDSL Biz aims to offer SME Bossings better security solutions for greater protection and control over their broadband, but at affordable rates that will surely advance your business to the cyber age.